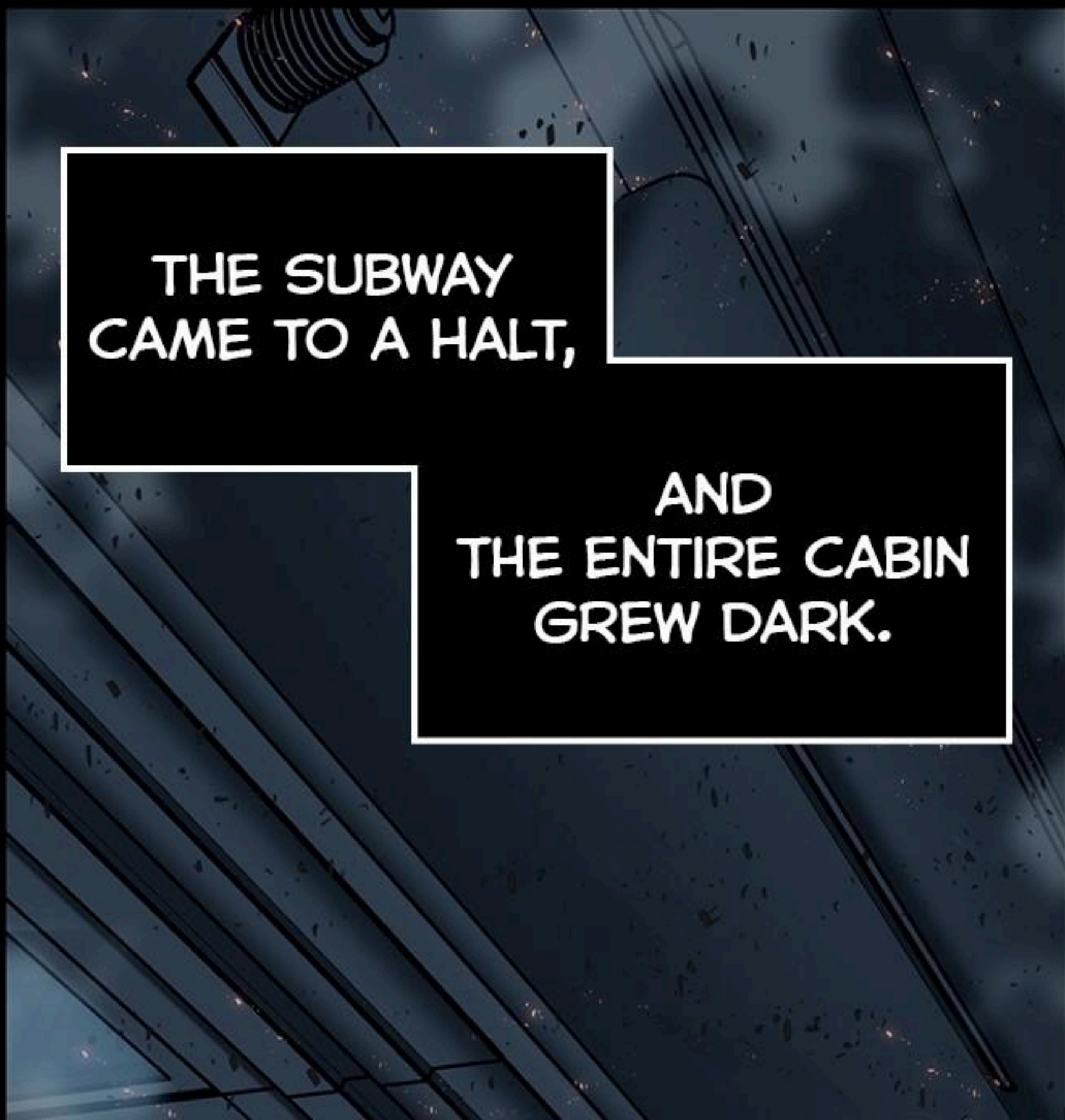
THIS EPISODE CONTAINS DEPICTIONS OF VIOLENCE THAT MAY BE UPSETTING FOR SOME READERS.

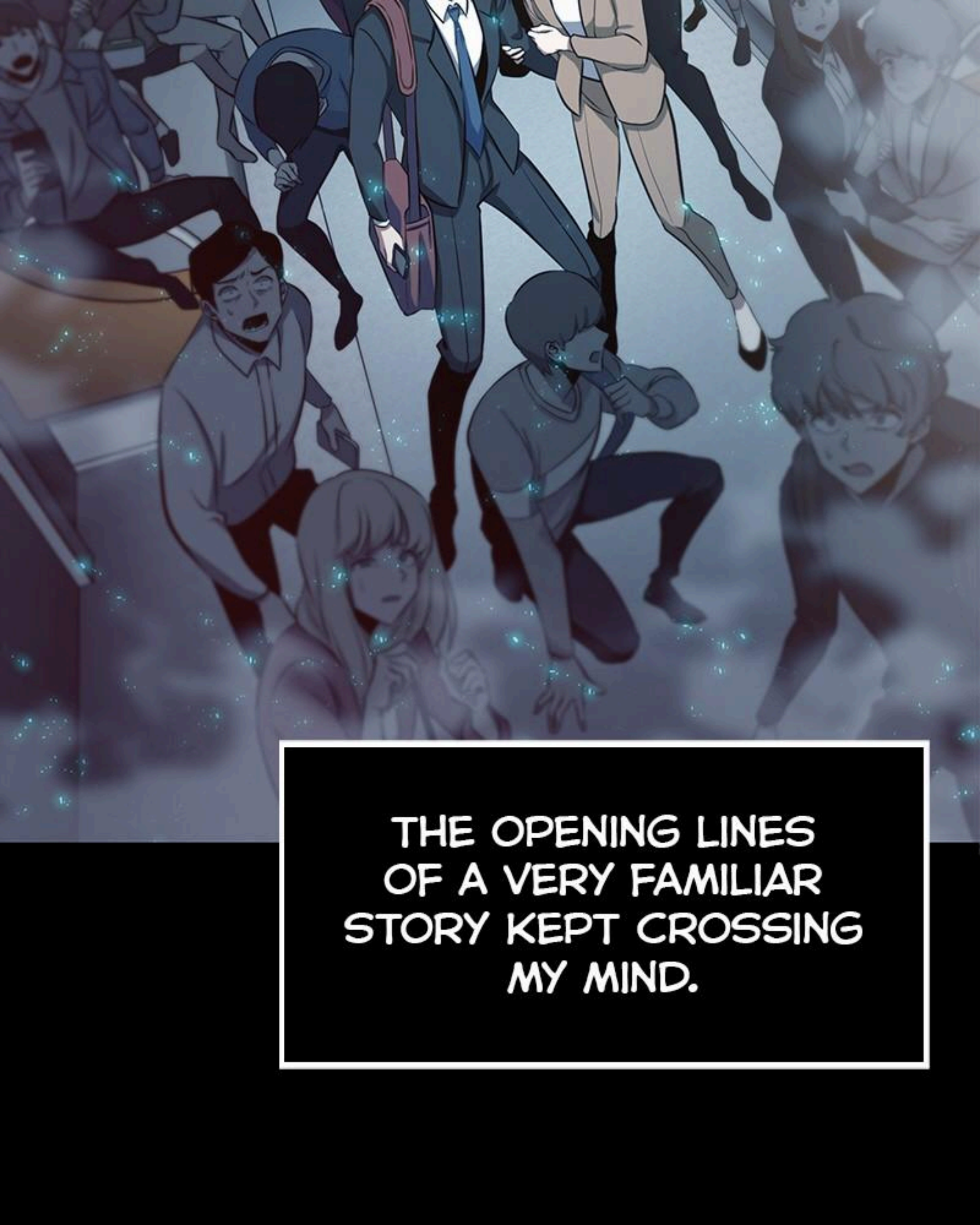
"IT'S A DOKKAEBI*," SOMEONE EXCLAIMED AS THE CREATURE SPRUNG INTO VIEW.

*A ***DOKKAEBI*** IS
A MYTHICAL CREATURE
IN KOREAN CULTURE THAT IS
SIMILAR TO A GOBLIN.

I DON'T KNOW WHY THAT SENTENCE POPPED INTO MY HEAD AT THAT MOMENT...


THE SUBWAY CAME TO A HALT,
AND THE ENTIRE CABIN GREW DARK.

NO WAY.
SUBWAYS STOP
ALL THE TIME.


THE OPENING LINES OF A VERY FAMILIAR STORY KEPT CROSSING MY MIND.

BUT IT DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE.

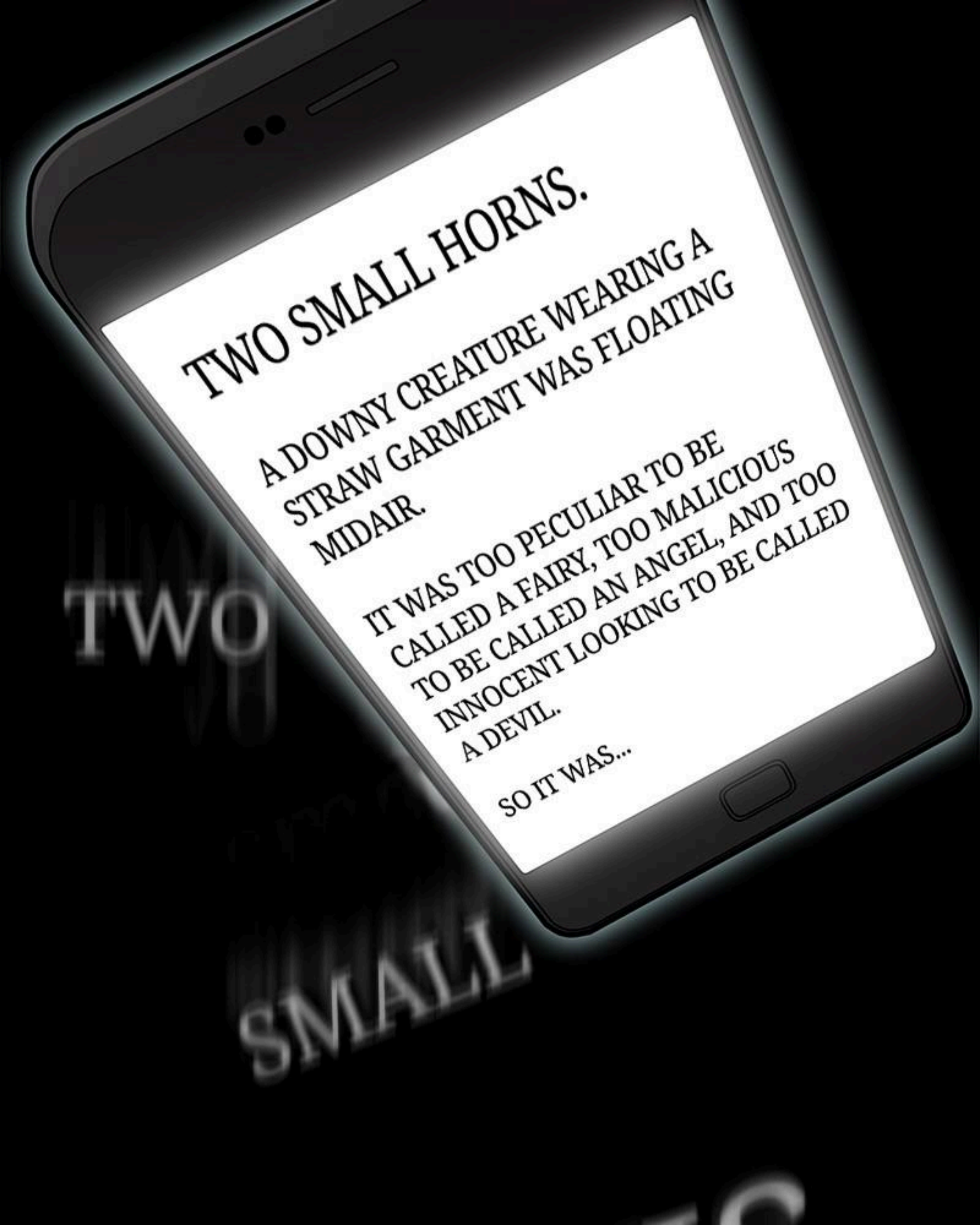
THERE'S NO WAY.

[redacted]
...A DOKKAEBI?

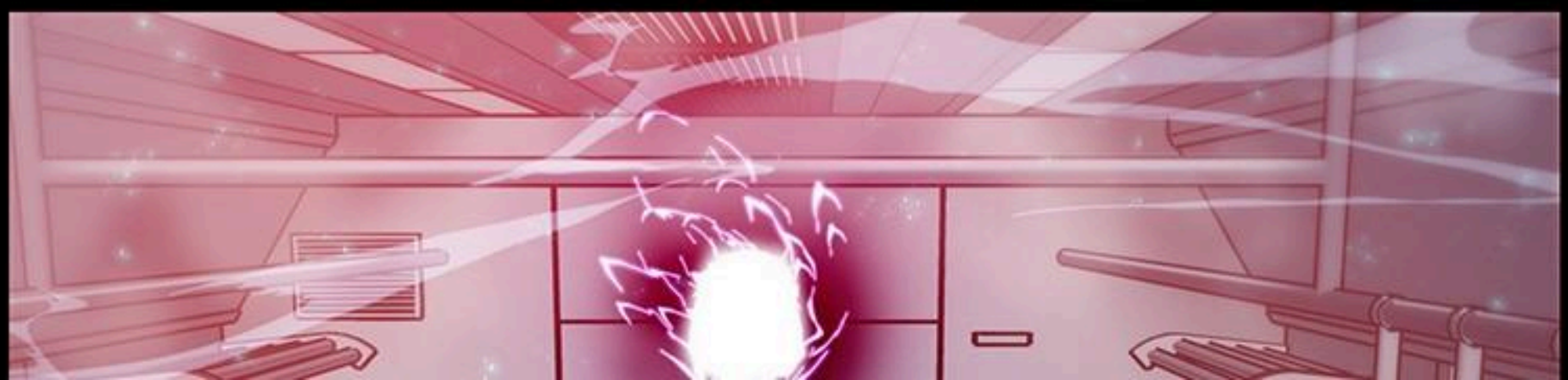
SORRY?

REALISTICALLY SPEAKING, THERE WAS NO WAY THIS COULD BE TRUE.

IT WAS COMPLETELY IMPOSSIBLE, BUT...


TWO SMALL HORNS.
A DOWNY CREATURE WEARING A STRAW GARMENT WAS FLOATING MIDAIR.
IT WAS TOO PECULIAR TO BE CALLED A FAIRY, TOO MALICIOUS TO BE CALLED AN ANGEL, AND TOO INNOCENT LOOKING TO BE CALLED A DEVIL.
SO IT WAS...
TWO
SMALL

HORNS



ANGEL

PECULIAR

DOWNY

INNOCENT LOOKING

CREATURE

MALICIOUS

STRAW GARMENT

WHAT IS THAT?

MURMUR
FLOATING
FAIRY
N-NO WAY...
THIS IS...

SO WE CALLED IT

A "DOKKAEBI."

HOVER
"SO WE CALLED IT A DOKKAEBI."

OMINS

TRAGEDIE

Art by Sleepy-C | Adapted by UMI | Original Story by Singshong

Episode 2

Chapter 1

The Beginning of the Paywall

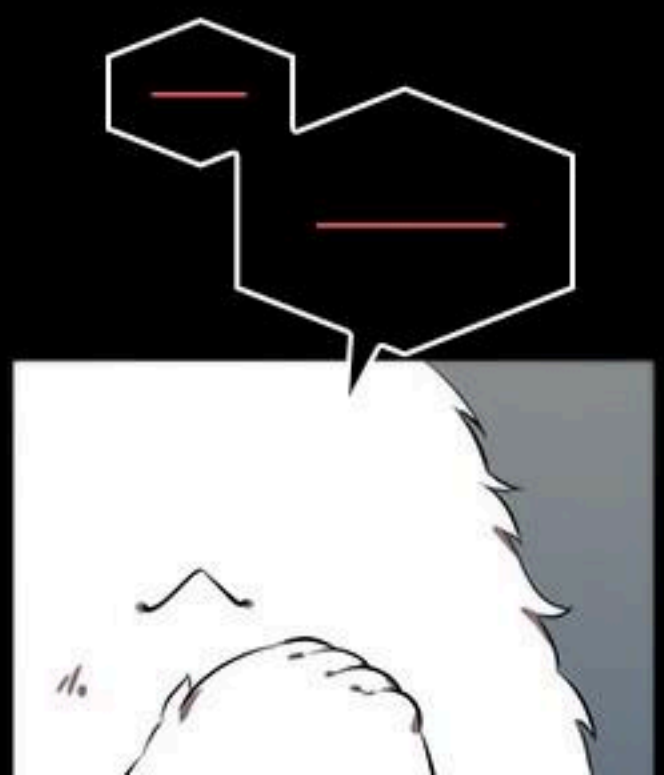
Part 1

STARE

MURMUR
MURMUR

MURMUR
MURMUR

AT THAT MOMENT, FICTION AND REALITY OVERLAPPED.



SNIFF
SNIFF

&아#@!&아#!
&아#@!&아#@!

WHAT'S THAT THING SAYING?
IS THIS AUGMENTED REALITY OR SOMETHING?

NO ONE KNEW
WHAT WAS GOING ON...
EXCEPT *ME*.

IT WAS THE DOKKAEBI THAT APPEARED IN THE

OPENING PARAGRAPH OF *TWSA*.

THIS CREATURE HERALDED THE TRAGEDY THAT CARRIED ON FOR THOUSANDS OF CHAPTERS THROUGHOUT [*THREE WAYS TO SURVIVE THE APOCALYPSE*].

THAT VERY SAME DOKKAEBI WAS NOW RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.

I THINK IT'S

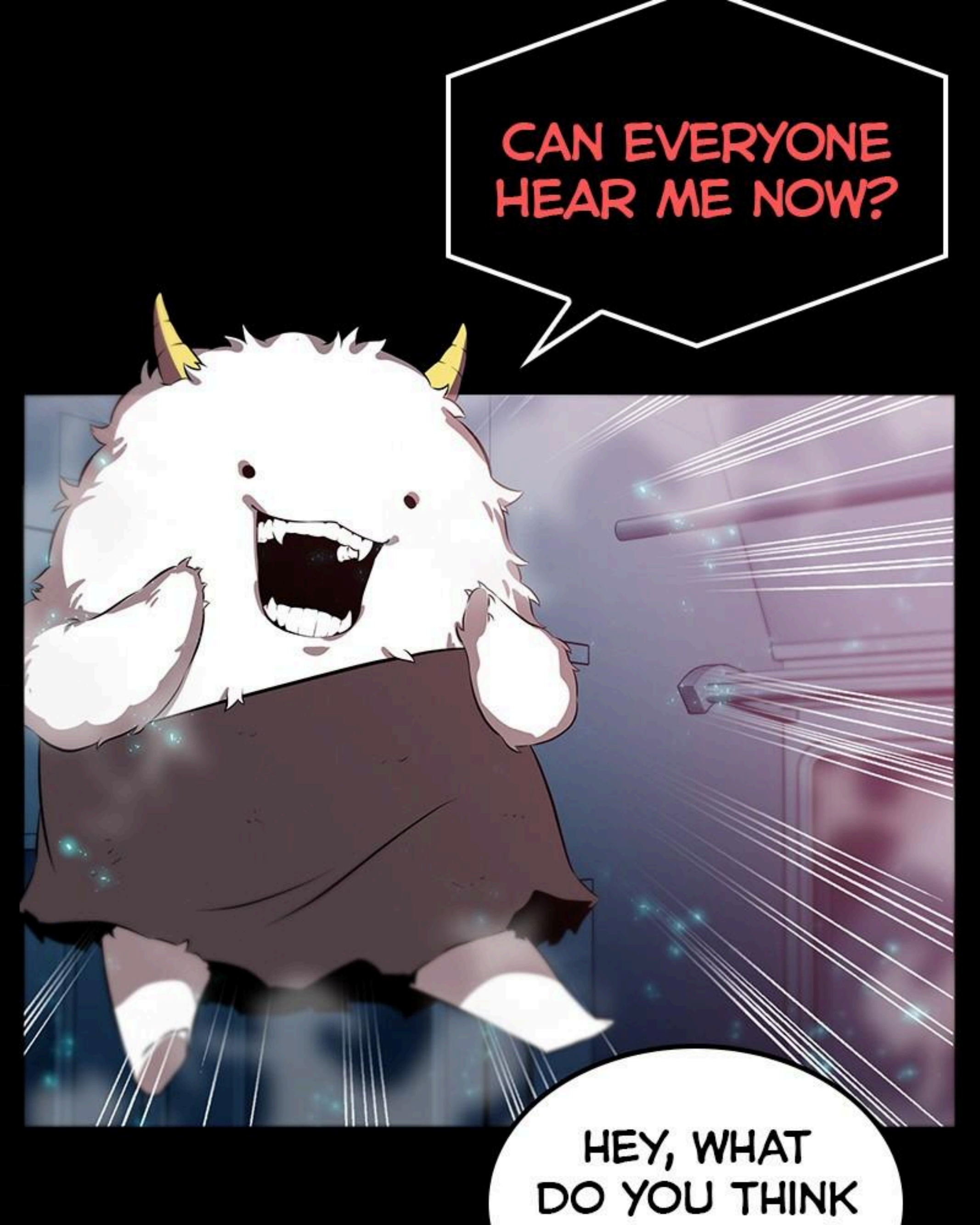
SPEAKING SPANISH. SHOULD I TRY TALKING TO IT?

YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THAT THING IS. ARE YOU GOING TO ASK IT TO LEND YOU MONEY?
"PUEDE" OR WHATEVER IT IS WON'T HELP US RIGHT NOW!

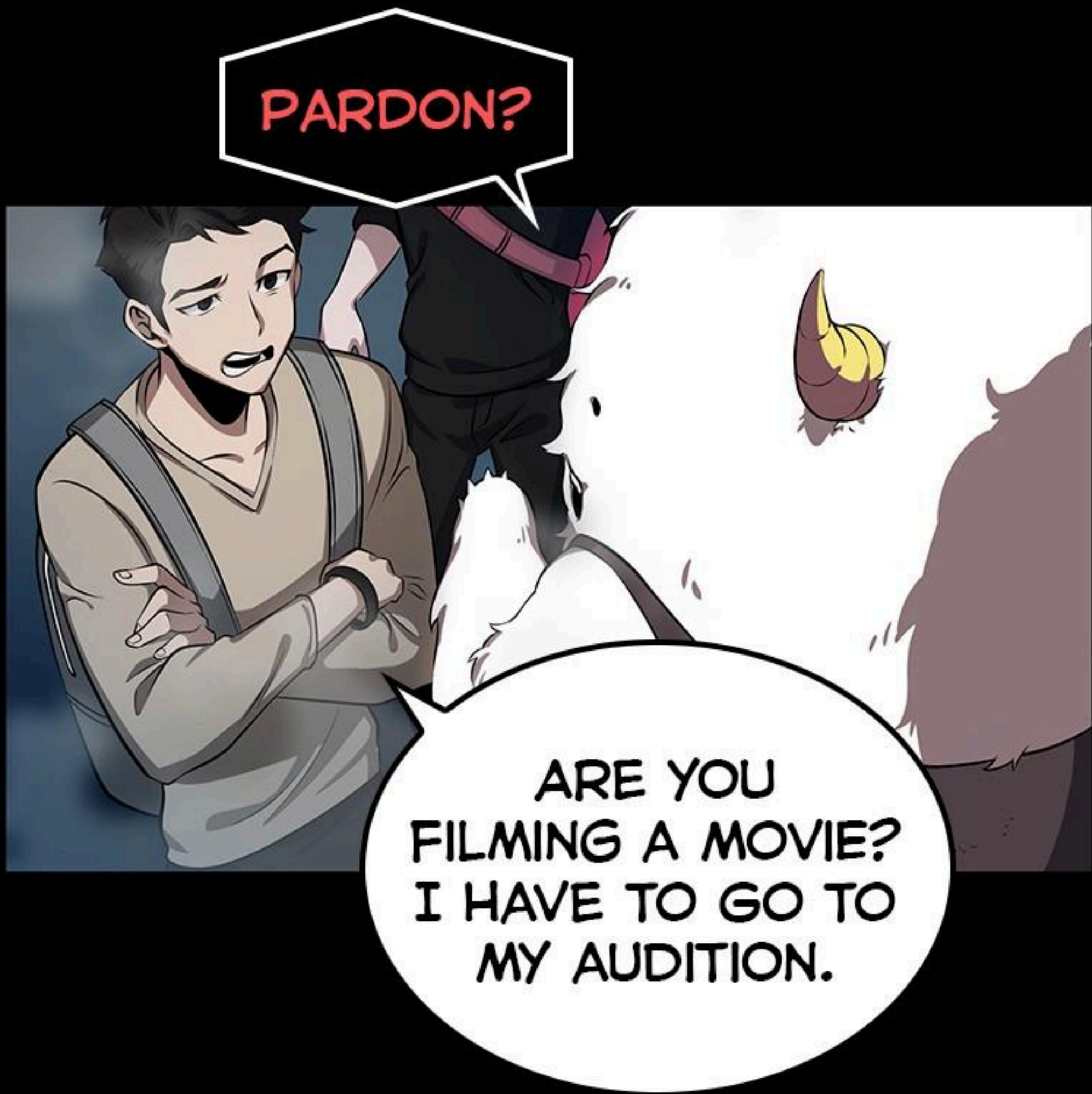
W-WELL, NO. BUT...

TESTING. TESTING. CAN EVERYONE HEAR ME?

GOSH. THE LANGUAGE PATCH WAS MALFUNCTIONING FOR A BIT.


CAN EVERYONE HEAR ME NOW?
HEY, WHAT DO YOU THINK

YOU'RE DOING?


PARDON?
ARE YOU FILMING A MOVIE? I HAVE TO GO TO MY AUDITION.

OH, AN AUDITION AT THIS HOUR, HUH? HAHA!

I GUESS I SHOULD HAVE DONE MORE RESEARCH.

THEY TOLD ME I WOULD HAVE THE MOST CUSTOMERS IF WE PUT UP THE PAYWALL AT AROUND 7 PM.

WHAT? WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

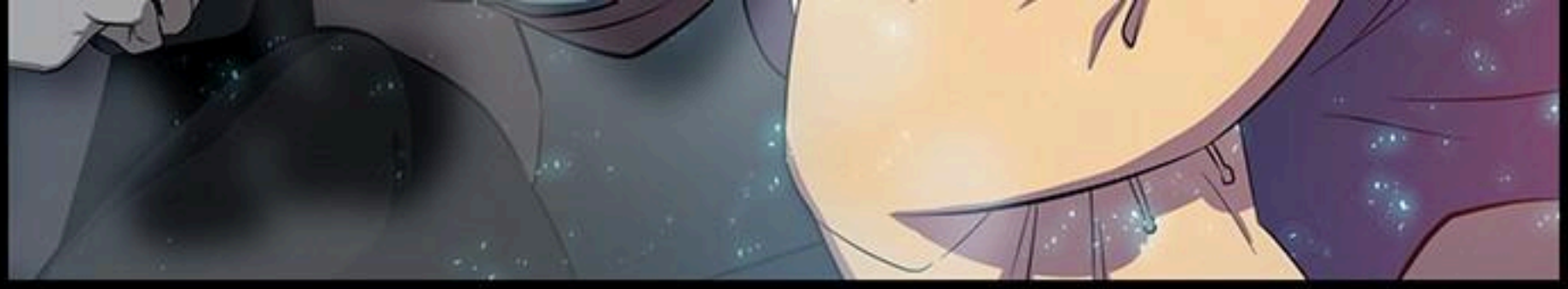
OKAY, EVERYONE. PLEASE CALM DOWN. WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A SEAT AND LISTEN?

I HAVE SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT TO TELL YOU ALL!

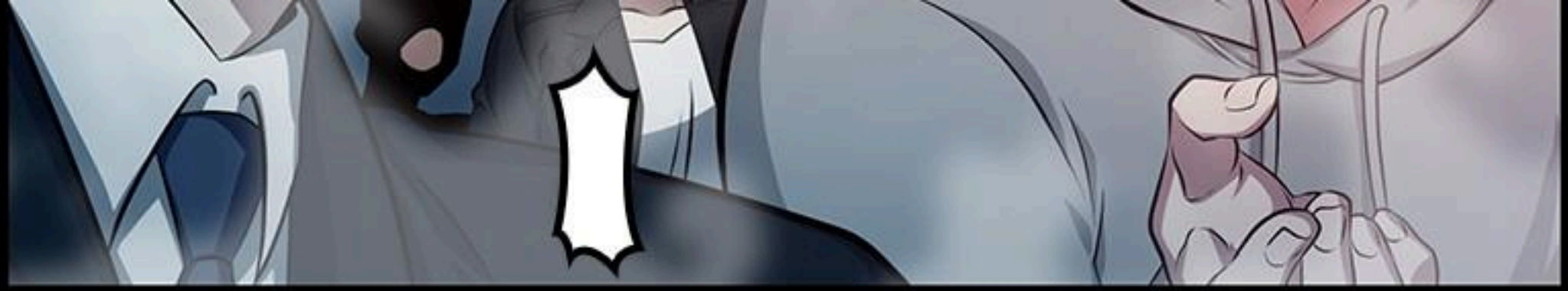
WHAT IS IT?
JUST START THE
TRAIN ALREADY!

YOU CAN'T DO THIS WITHOUT OUR CONSENT!

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO COMPENSATE FOR THIS?



I AM CERTAIN.



I KNOW EXACTLY
HOW THIS STORY GOES.

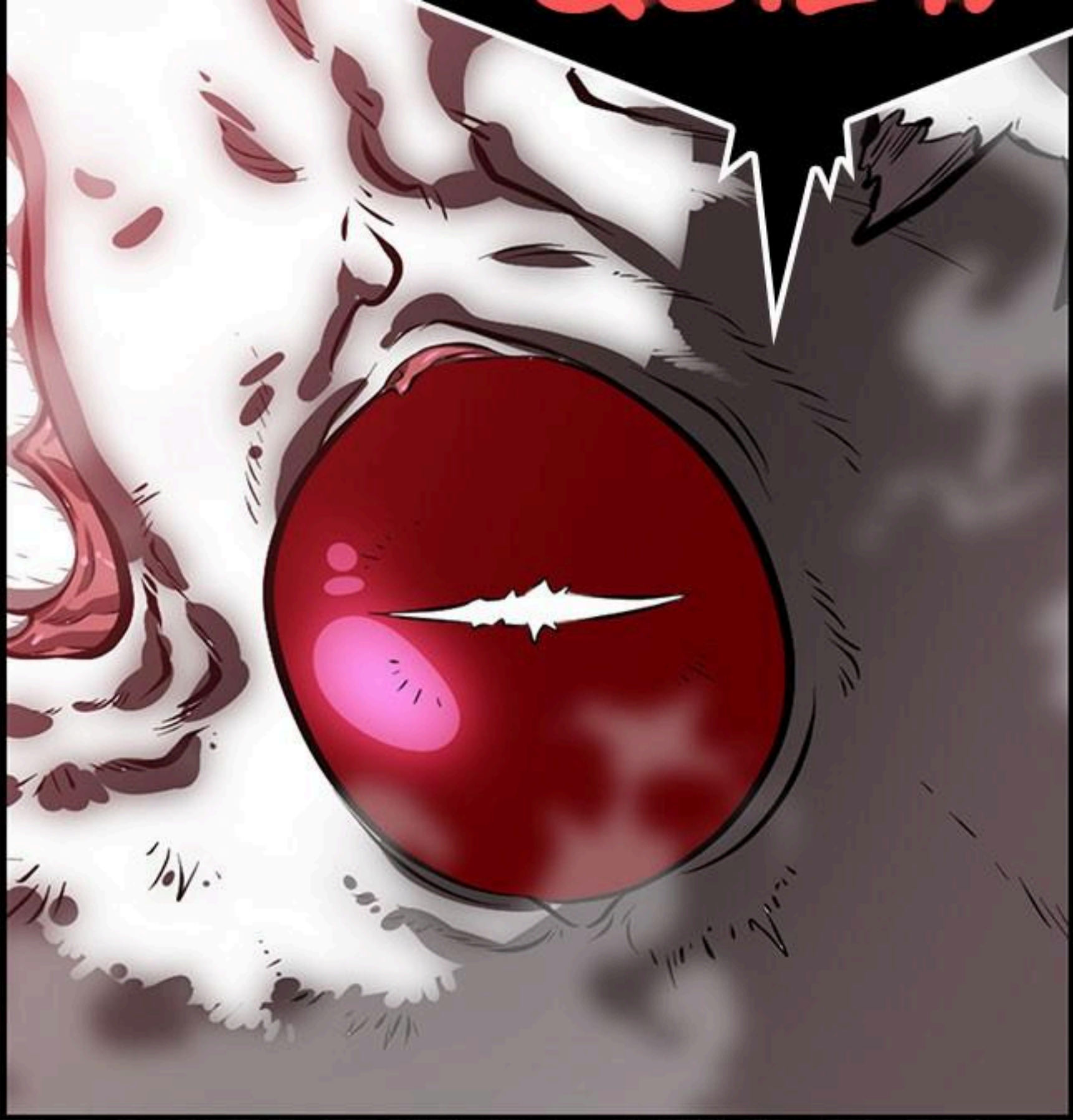
I HAVE TO STOP THEM.

SANGA, DON'T MOVE.
SORRY?

HAHA.

...TOLD YOU...

...TO BE QUIET!



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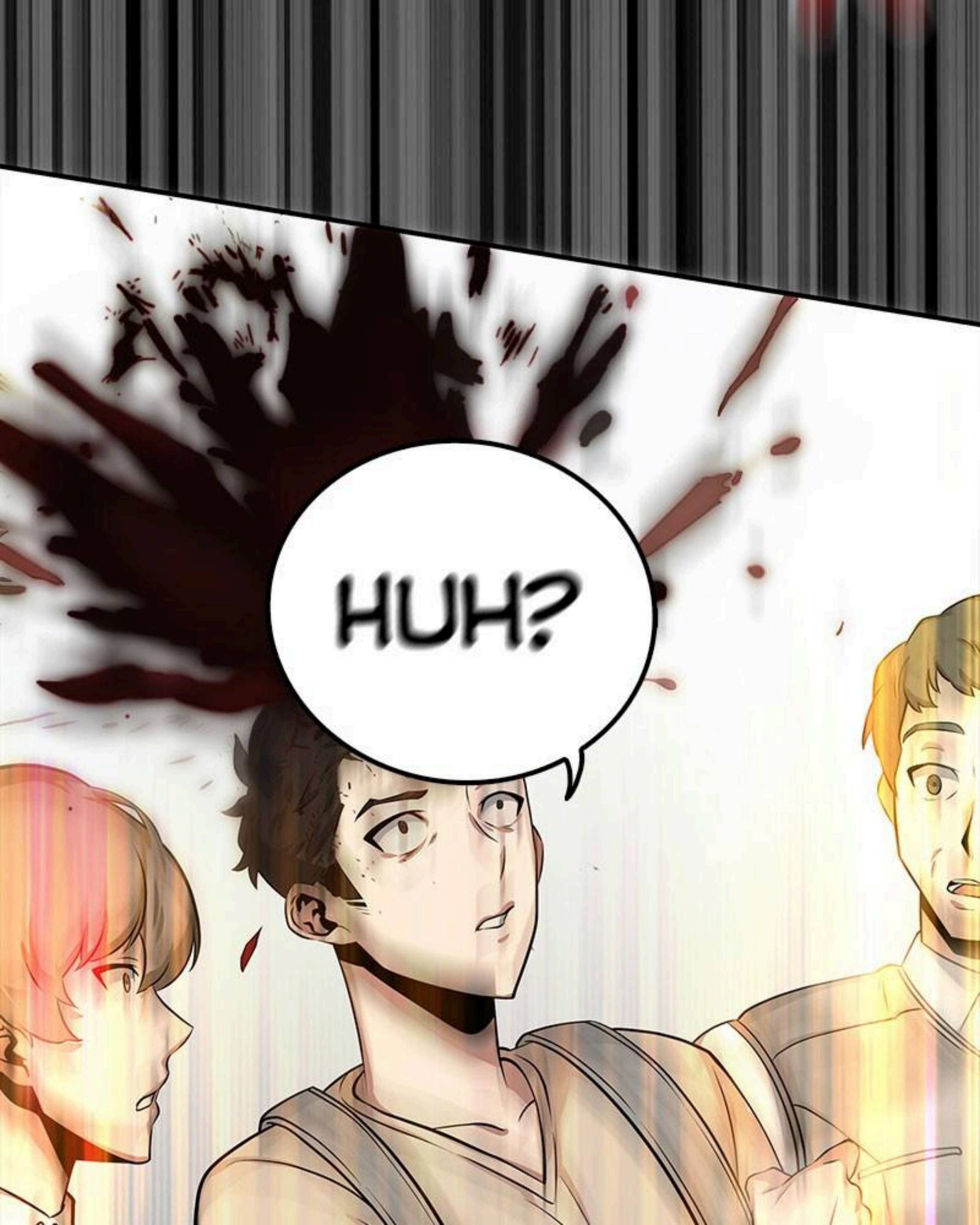
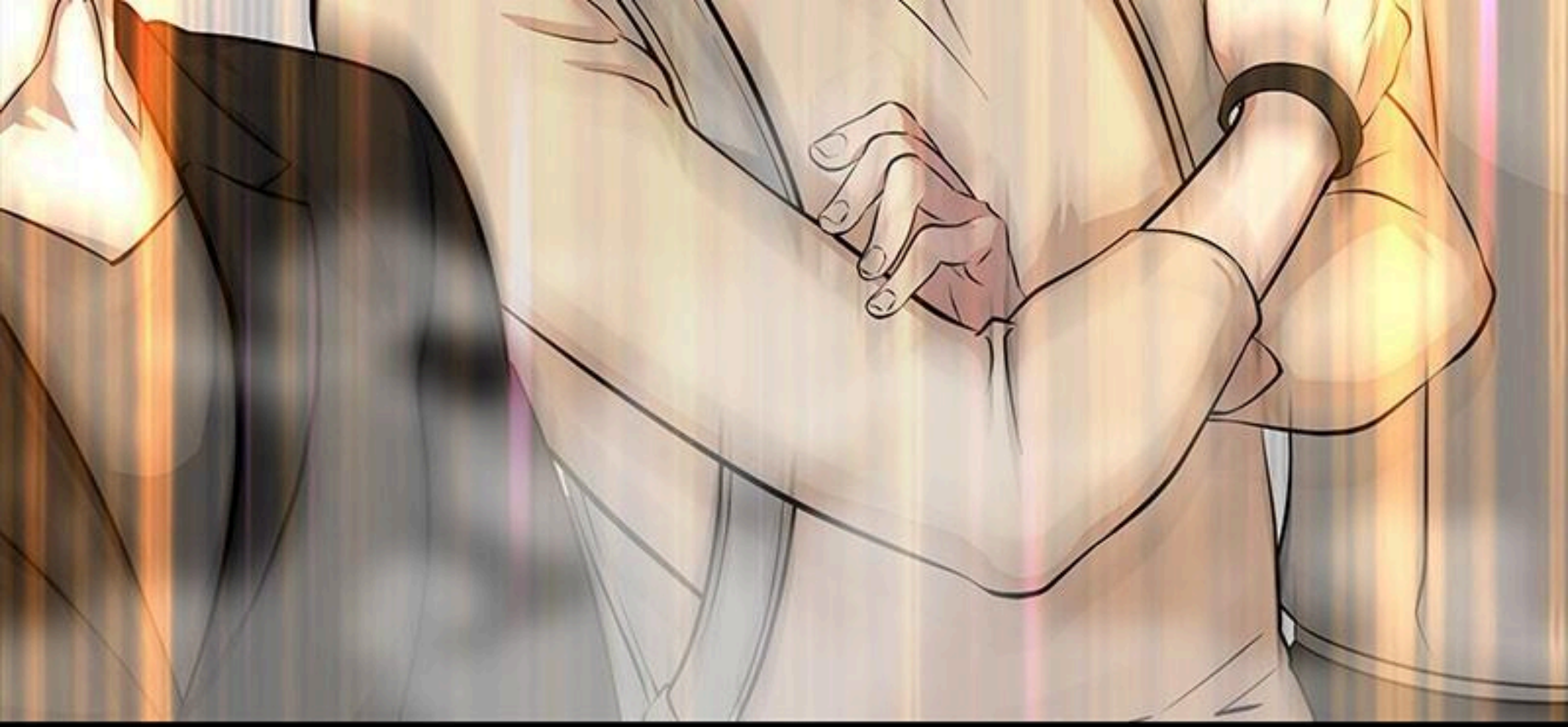

HUH?

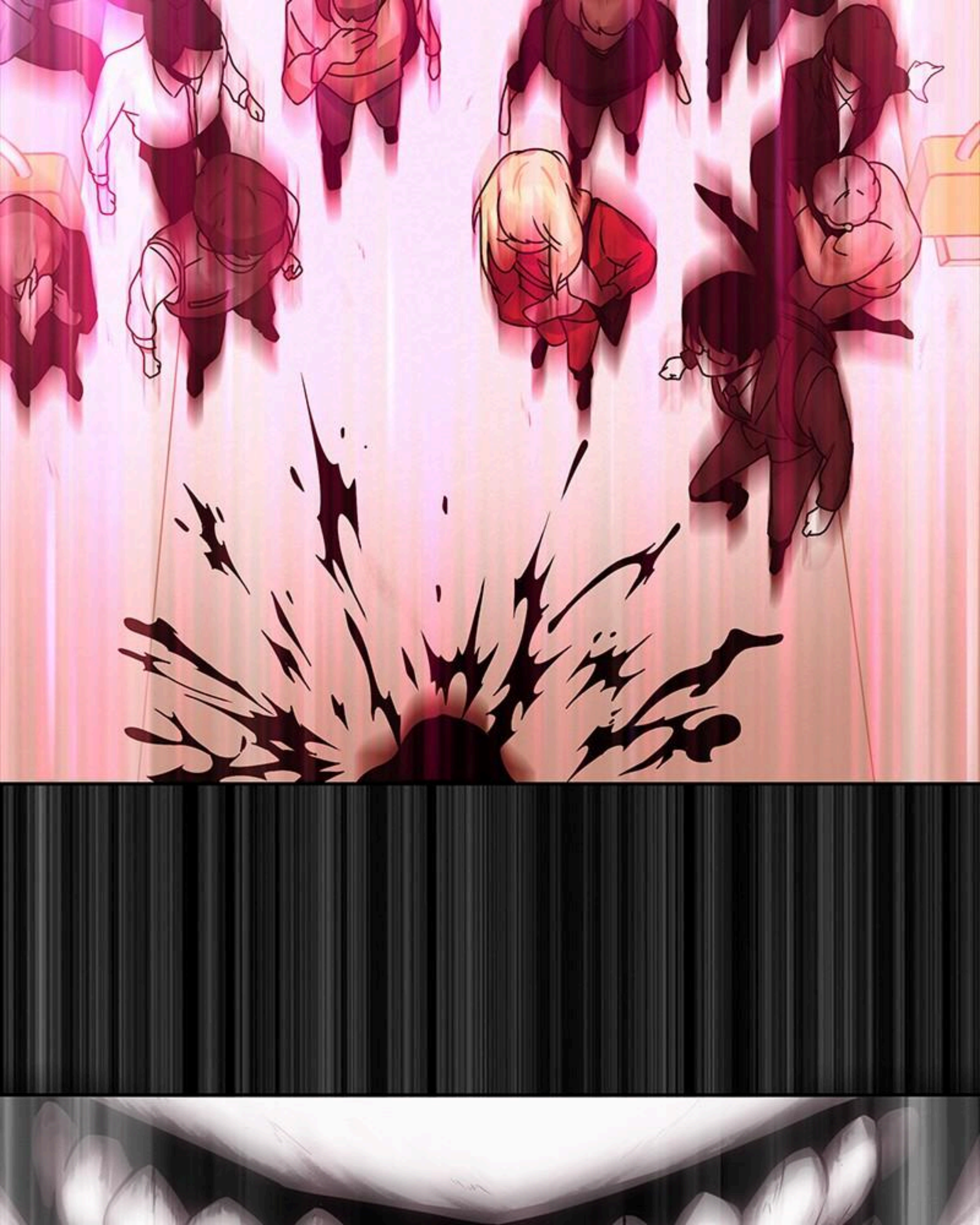


UH...

SPLAT

S

PLAT
SWAY



WE'RE NOT FILMING A MOVIE.

SPLATT

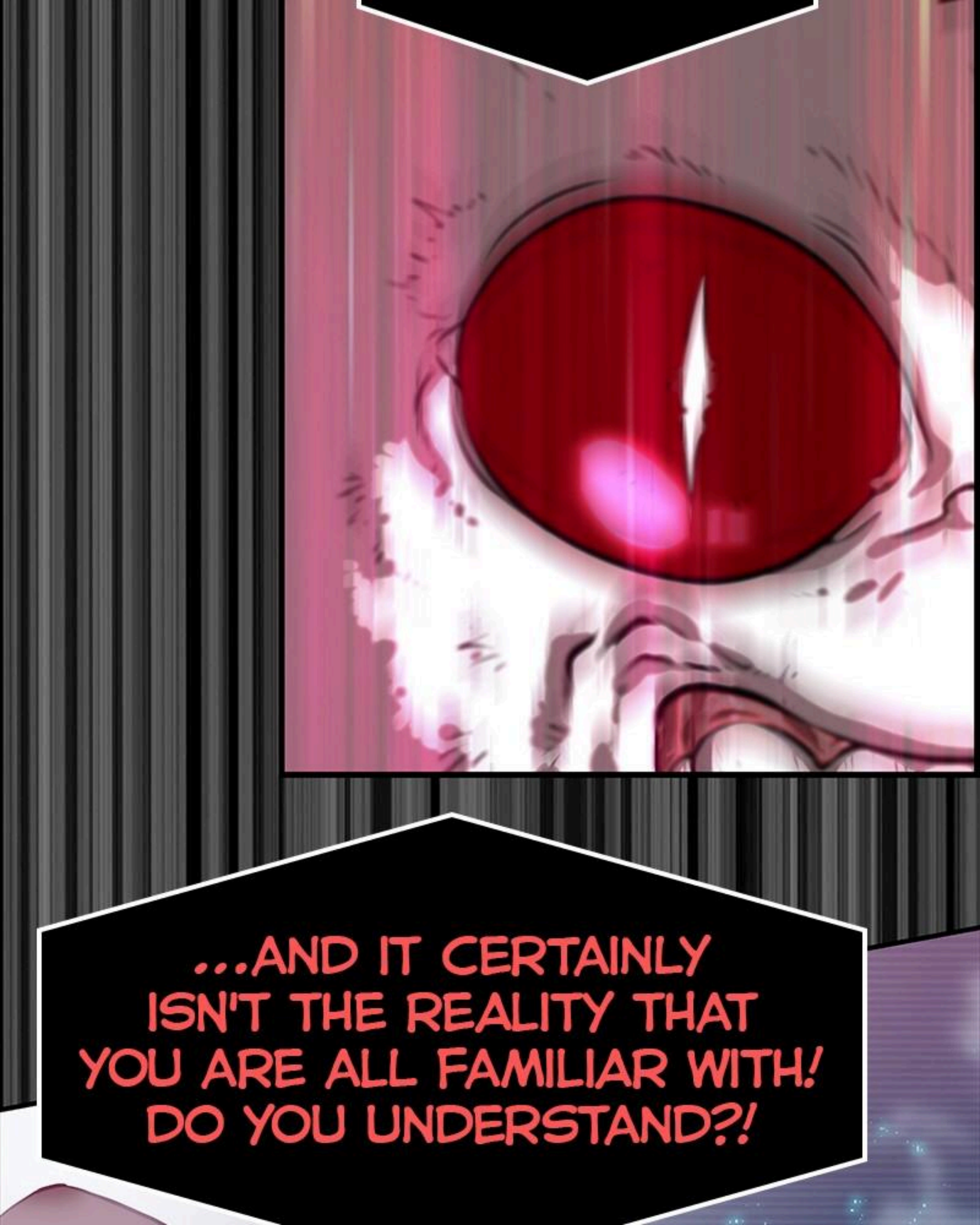
ER
THIS ISN'T A DREAM...
SPLAT

SPLAT

SPLATTER

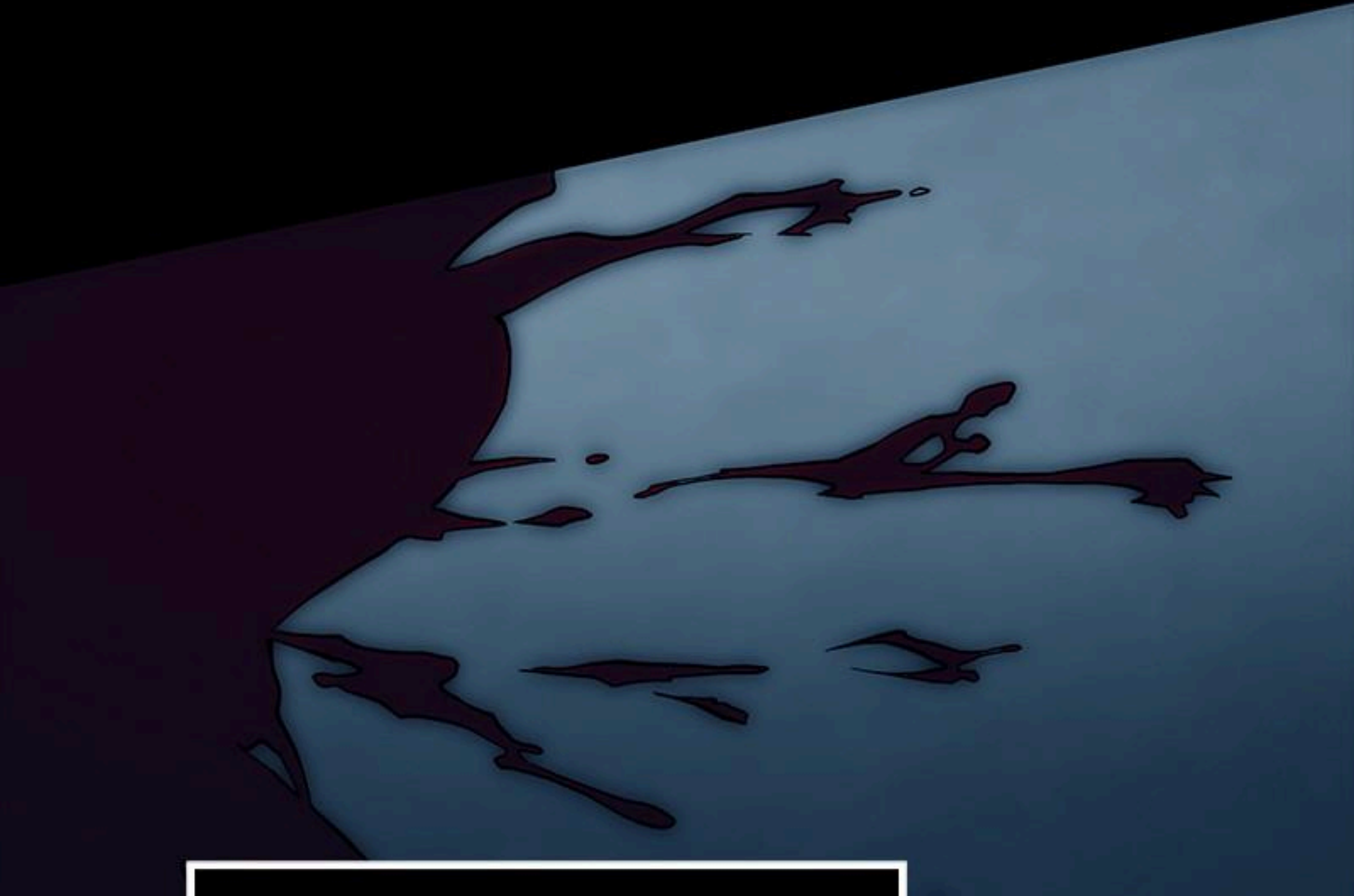
SPLAT

...OR A NOVEL...


...AND IT CERTAINLY ISN'T THE REALITY THAT YOU ARE ALL FAMILIAR WITH! DO YOU UNDERSTAND?!

I HATED TO ADMIT IT,
BUT THIS WAS REAL.

MY DOUBT AND DISBELIEF SLOWLY FADED AWAY...

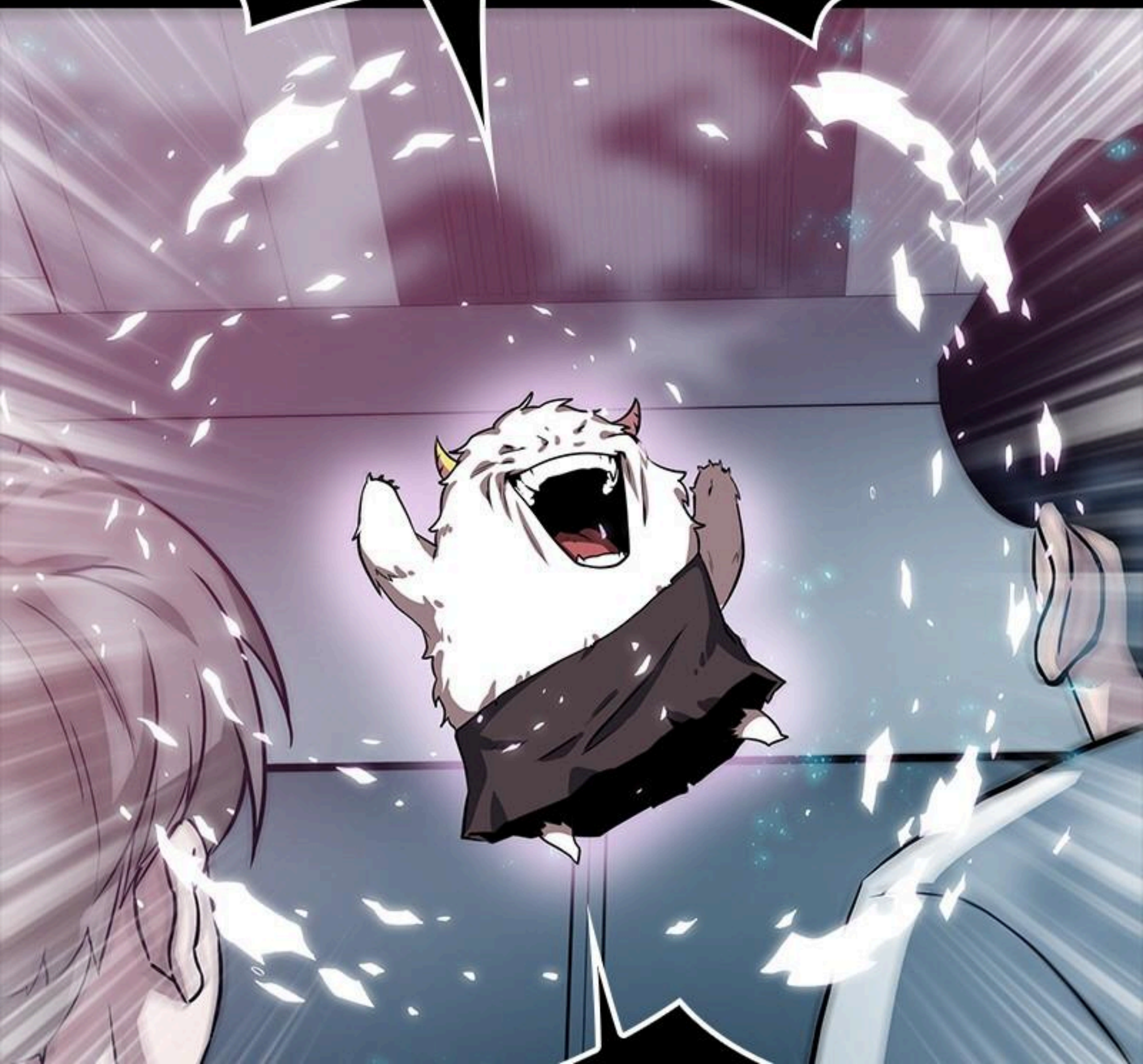


...AS I WATCHED THE FLOOR QUICKLY BECOME PAINTED IN BLOOD.

ALL OF YOU HAVE HAD QUITE A CUSHY LIFE UNTIL NOW, HAVEN'T YOU?

YOU WERE ABLE TO

YOU WERE ABLE TO BREATHE, EAT, EXCRETE, AND REPRODUCE WITHOUT PAYING THE COSTS! HA!



YOU'VE ALL BEEN ENJOYING PRIVILEGED LIVES!

BUT IT'S ALL OVER NOW.

NOTHING IS FREE IN LIFE, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

IS IT MONEY YOU WANT?

SANGA, ISN'T THAT MR. HAN FROM THE FINANCE TEAM?
HE WAS EMPLOYED BECAUSE OF HIS CONNECTIONS.

...YES.
IF IT'S MONEY YOU'RE AFTER, I'LL GIVE YOU

AS MUCH AS YOU WANT.
AND JUST SO YOU KNOW, THIS IS WHAT I DO.

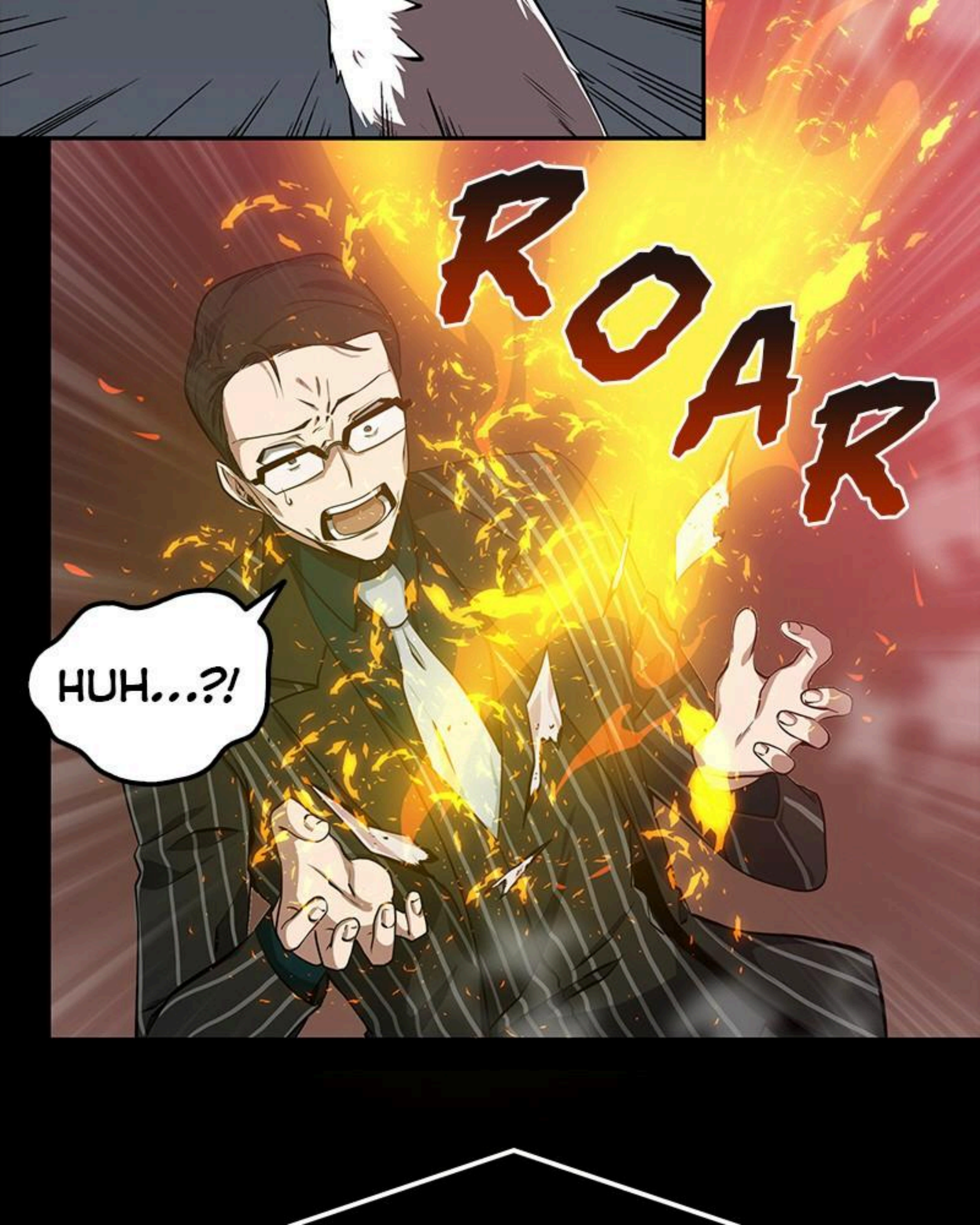
HOW MUCH DO YOU NEED? A MILLION? OR TWO MILLION PERHAPS?

HMM. SO YOU'RE OFFERING ME YOUR MONEY?
RUMMAGE
RUMMAGE

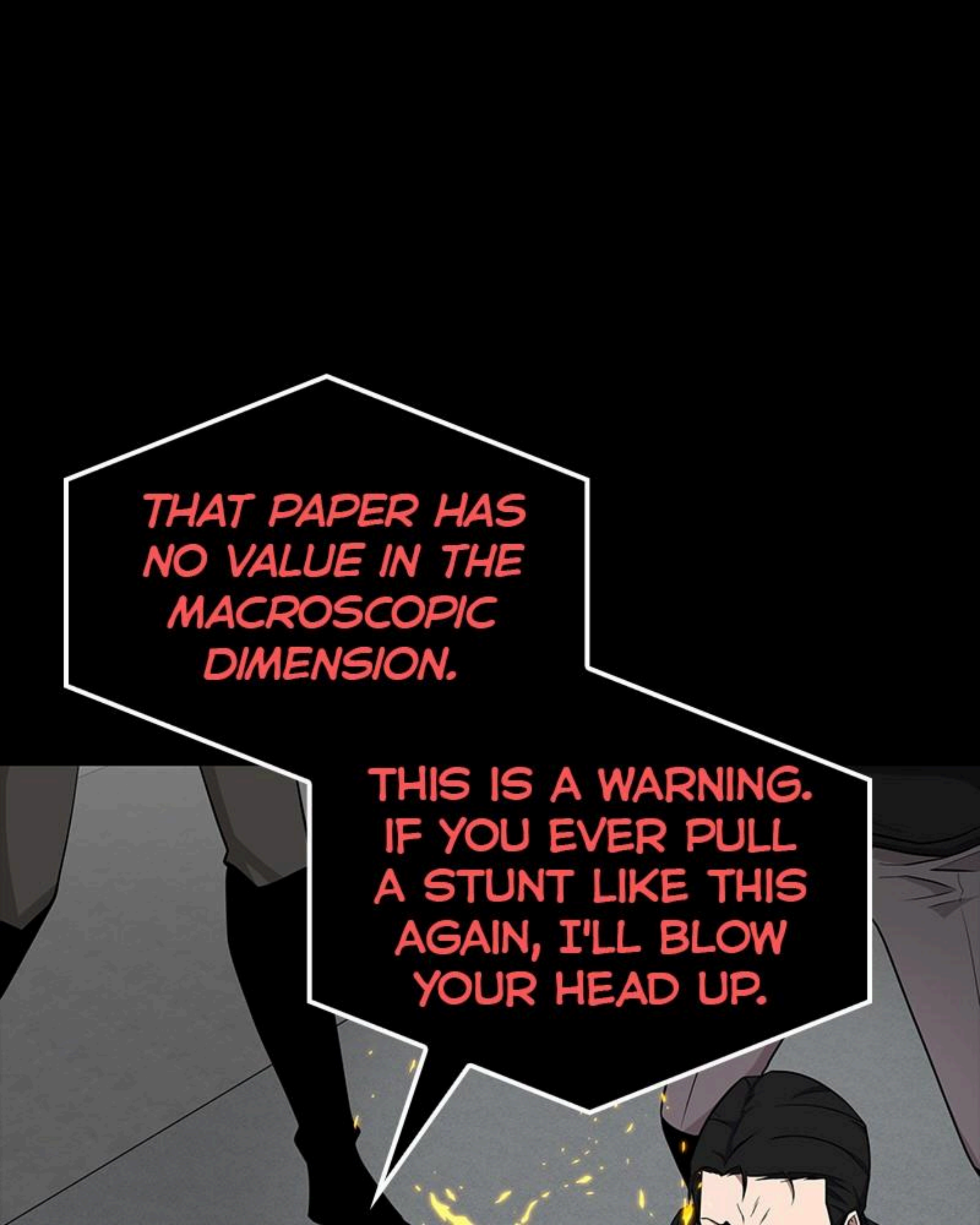
I'LL GIVE YOU AS MUCH AS YOU WANT IF YOU LET ME OUT OF HERE.

MONEY IS GOOD. IT IS AN OBJECT THAT SIGNIFIES AN INTERSUBJECTIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN HUMANS.

YES!
MONEY SOLVES
EVERYTHING.


ROAR
HUH...?!

BUT IT'S ONLY VALID WITHIN THE CONFINES OF YOUR SPACE-TIME.


THAT PAPER HAS NO VALUE IN THE MACROSCOPIC DIMENSION.
THIS IS A WARNING. IF YOU EVER PULL A STUNT LIKE THIS AGAIN, I'LL BLOW YOUR HEAD UP.

U-UGH...

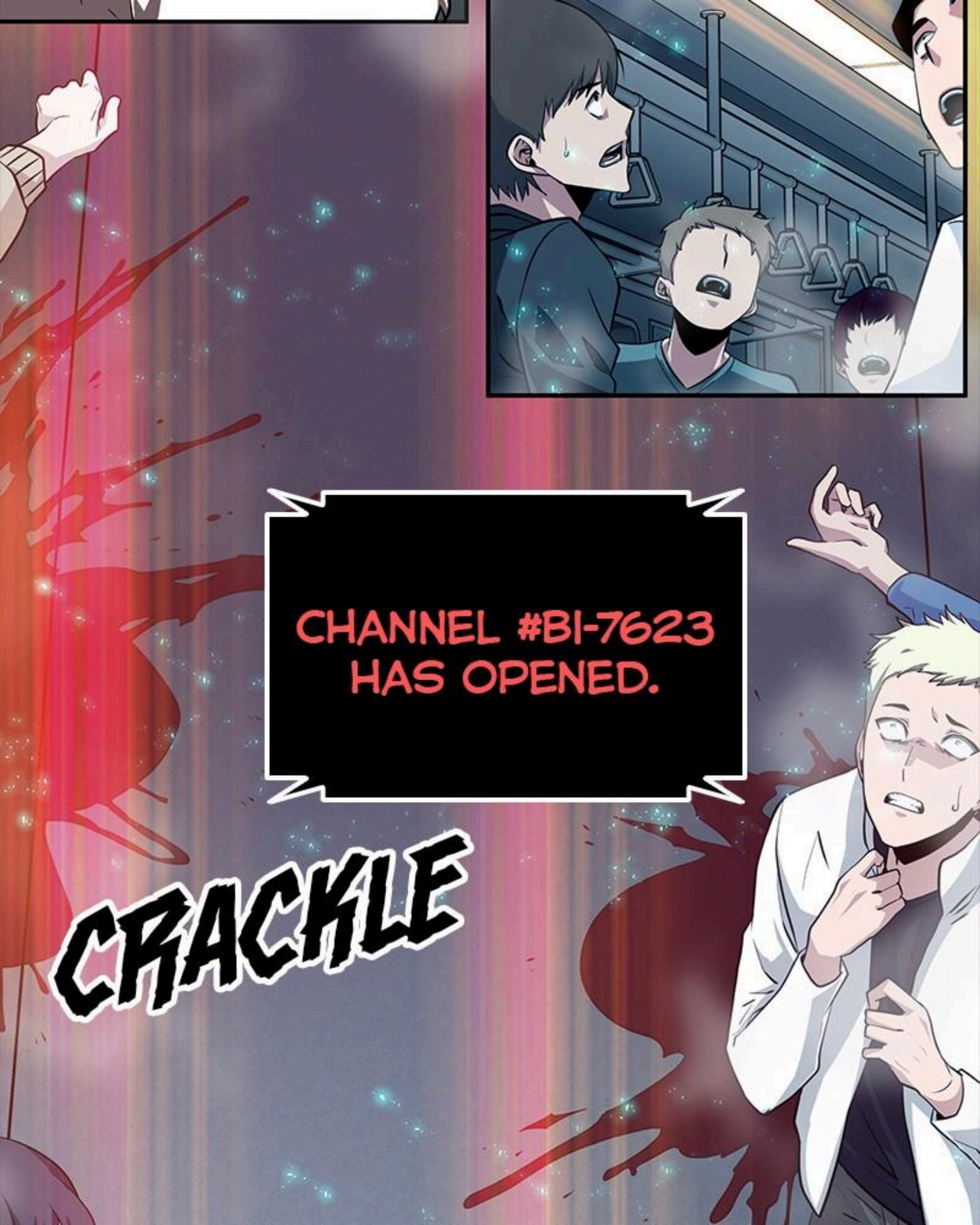
HA...
THERE'S NO TIME FOR CHITCHAT. YOUR DEBT IS PILING UP AS WE SPEAK.

I WON'T BOTHER EXPLAINING IT TO YOU. IT WILL BE FASTER FOR YOU TO TRY TO EARN THE MONEY YOURSELVES.

AP

BURST

SWOOSH


CHANNEL #BI-7623
HAS OPENED.
CRACKLE

CRACKLE
THE CONSTELLATIONS ARE NOW MAKING AN ENTRANCE

AN ENTRANCE.

DING

HUH?

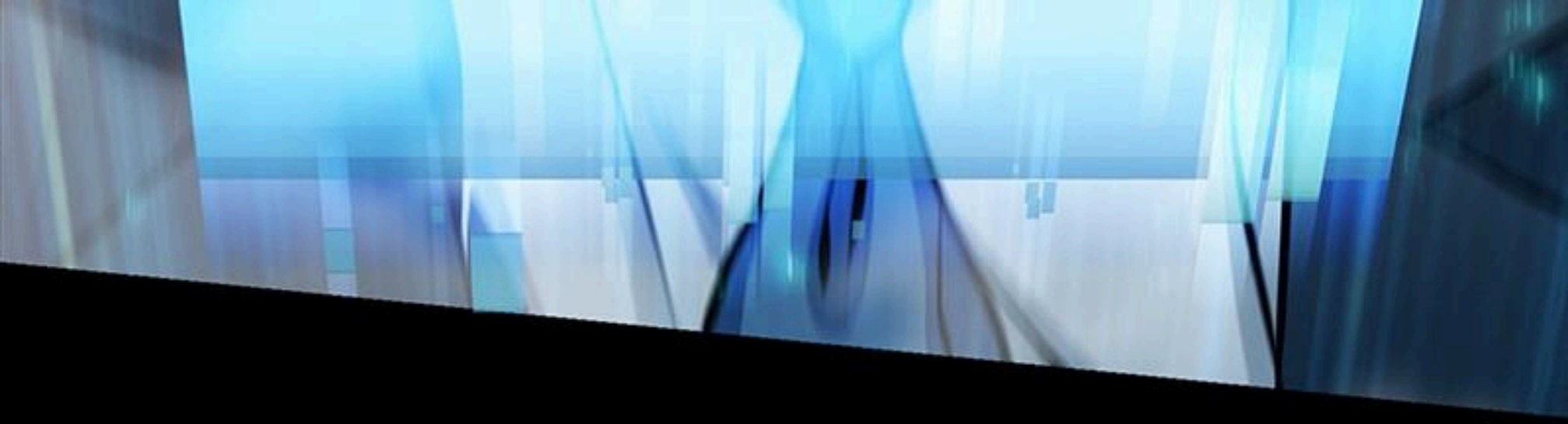
DING

WHAT IS THIS?

WHAT IS THIS?

DING

DING



THE MAIN SCENARIO
HAS ARRIVED.

MAIN SCENARIO #1

[PROVE YOUR VALUE]

KILL ONE OR MORE

KILL ONE OR MORE LIVING ORGANISMS.

CATEGORY: MAIN
DIFFICULTY: F
TIME LIMIT: 30 MINUTES
REWARD: 300 COINS
PENALTY FOR FAILURE: DEATH

WELL, GOOD LUCK, EVERYONE.

I EXPECT TO SEE AN INTERESTING STORY.

FLA

H

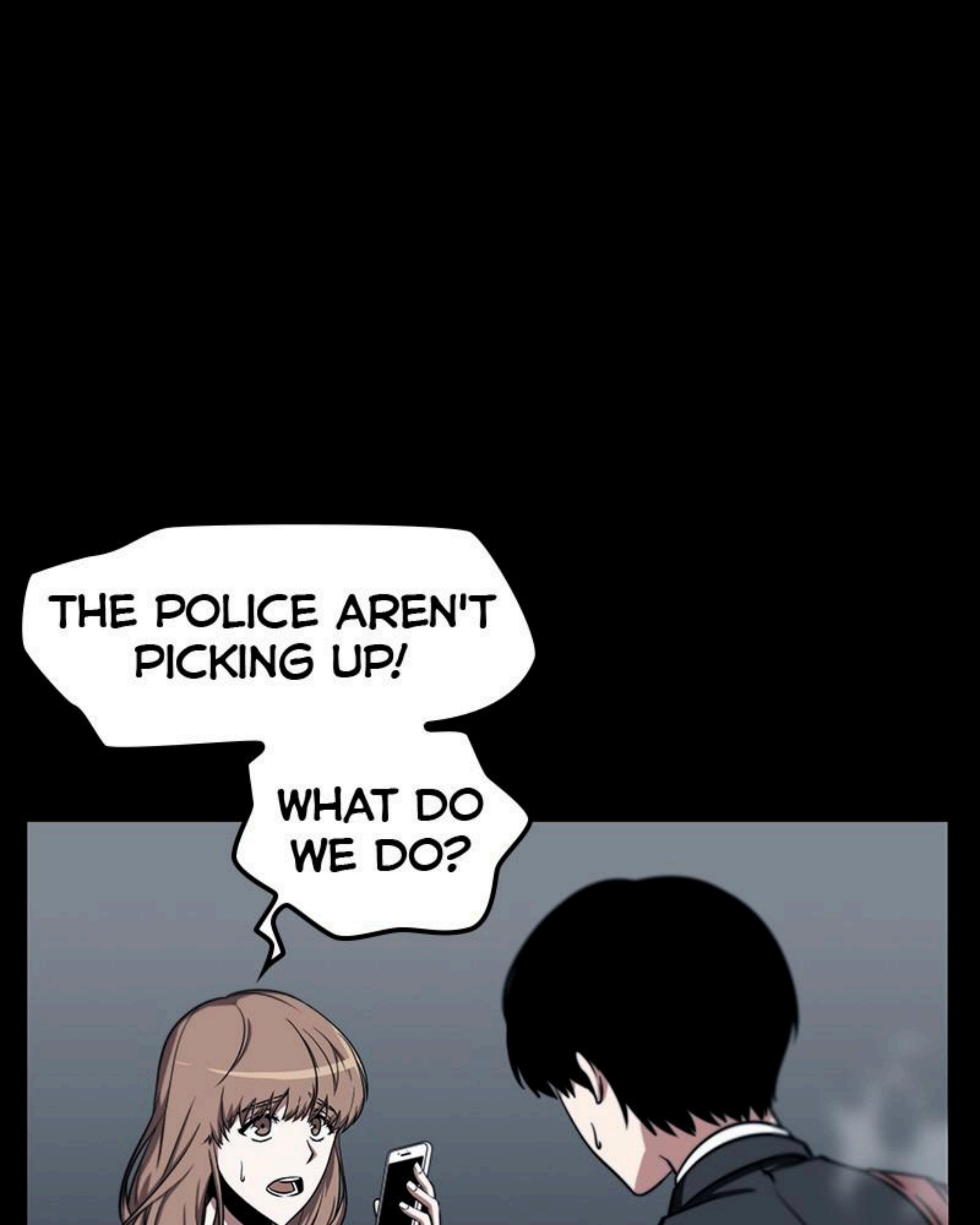
Produced/Edited by Redice Studio
Published by L7

MURMUR
MURMUR
MURMUR

MURMUR

R
R
R
R

RRRRRRING
THE POLICE...


THE POLICE AREN'T PICKING UP!
WHAT DO WE DO?

SANGA, STAY CALM.

SANGA, YOU'VE

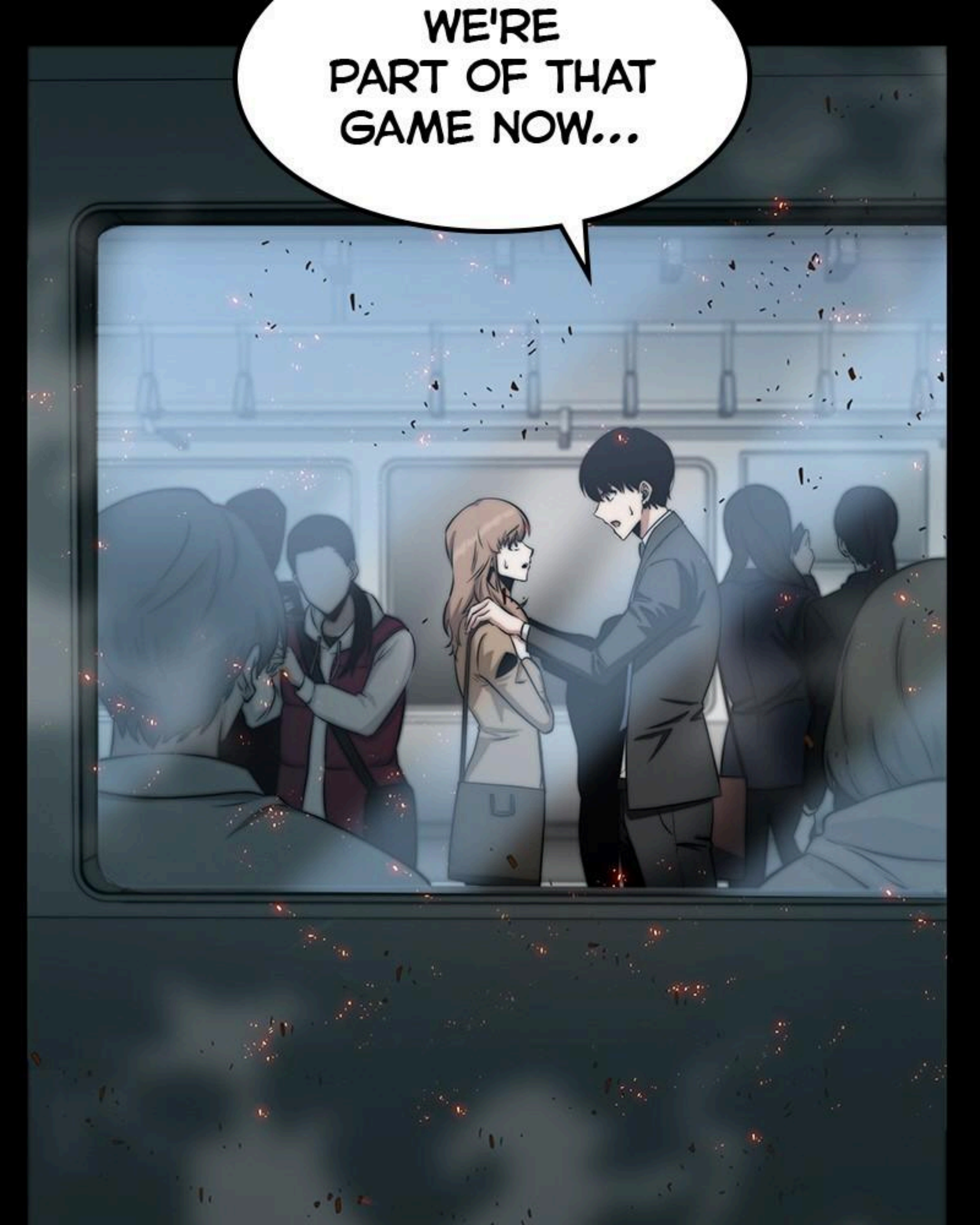
PLAYED THE GAME THE DEVELOPMENT TEAM IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON, RIGHT?

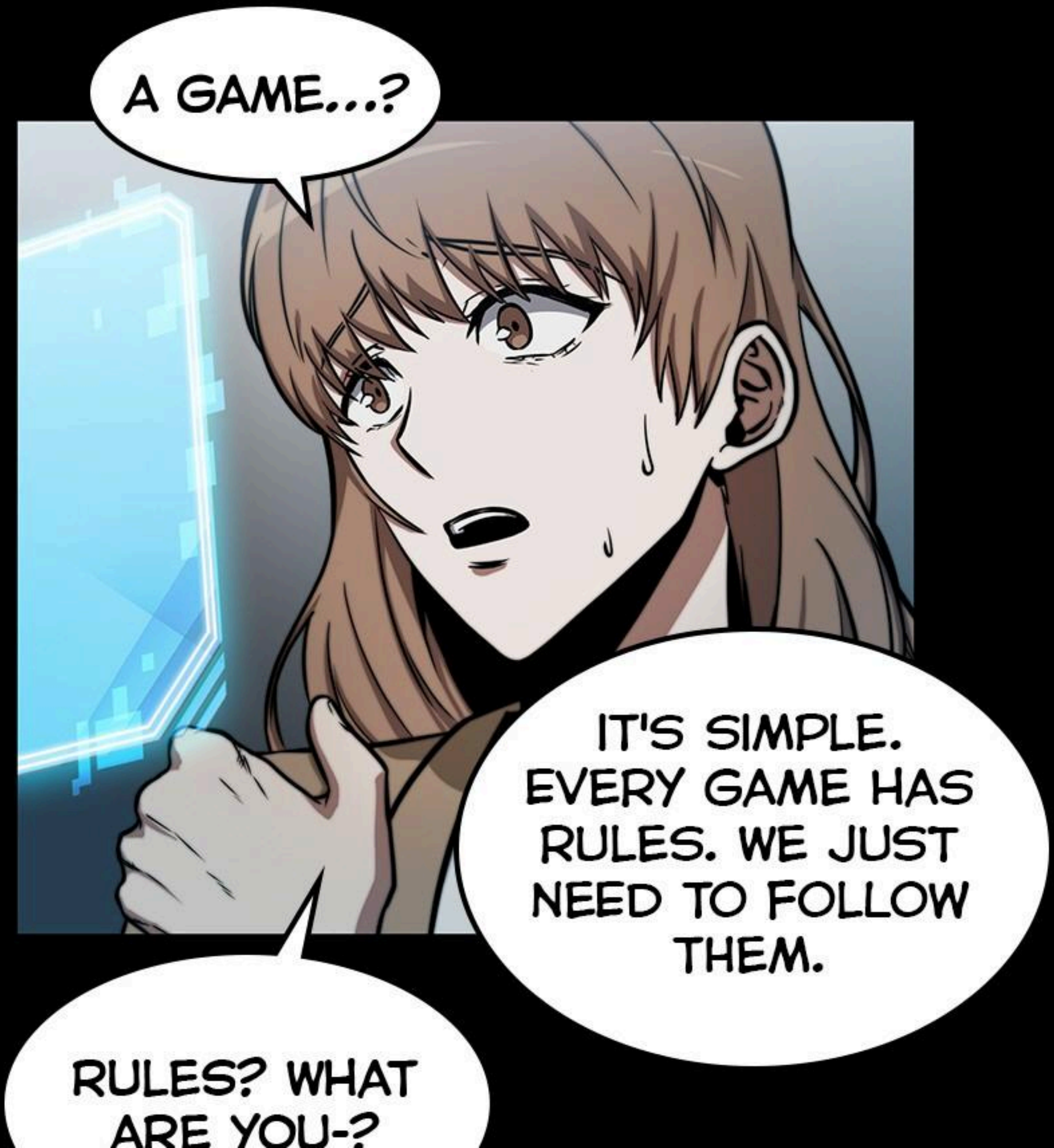
YOU KNOW, THE ONE WHERE ONLY A HANDFUL OF PEOPLE SURVIVE THE APOCALYPSE.

HUH?

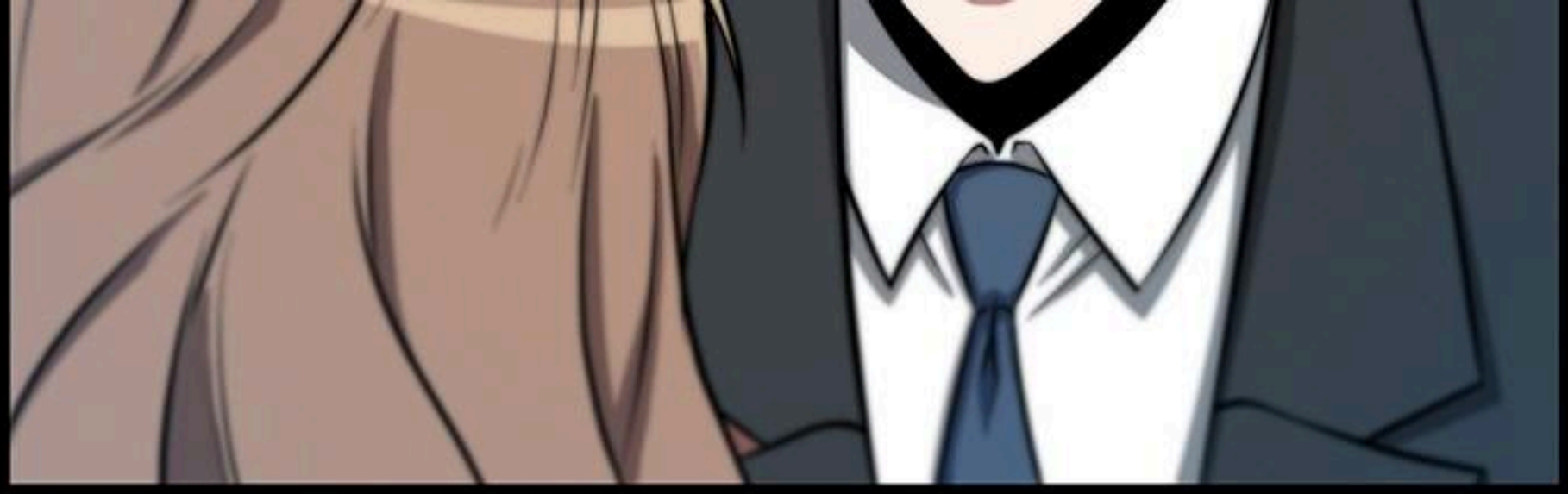
WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH ANYTHING?

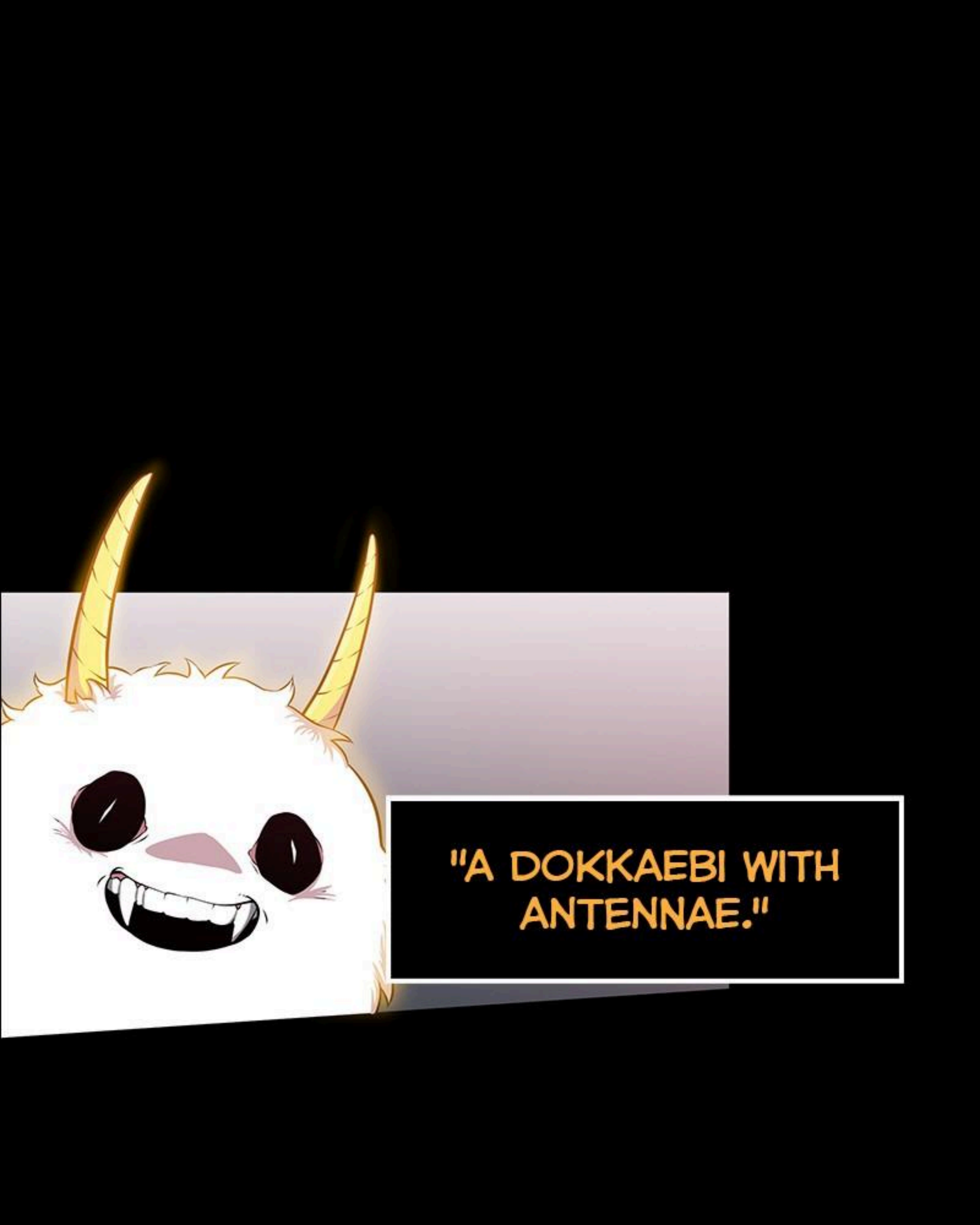
THINK OF IT THIS WAY.


WE'RE PART OF THAT GAME NOW...


A GAME...?
IT'S SIMPLE. EVERY GAME HAS RULES. WE JUST NEED TO FOLLOW THEM.
RULES? WHAT ARE YOU-?

WE JUST HAVE TO FIGURE OUT WHAT THOSE RULES ARE.




"A DOKKAEBI WITH ANTENNAE."

"A LITTER OF DEAD BODIES IN THE SUBWAY CABIN."

"TREMBLING OFFICE WORKERS COVERED IN BLOOD."

"AN OLD LADY PRAYING FERVENTLY IN HER SEAT."

I STILL COULDN'T BELIEVE THIS WAS REALLY HAPPENING...

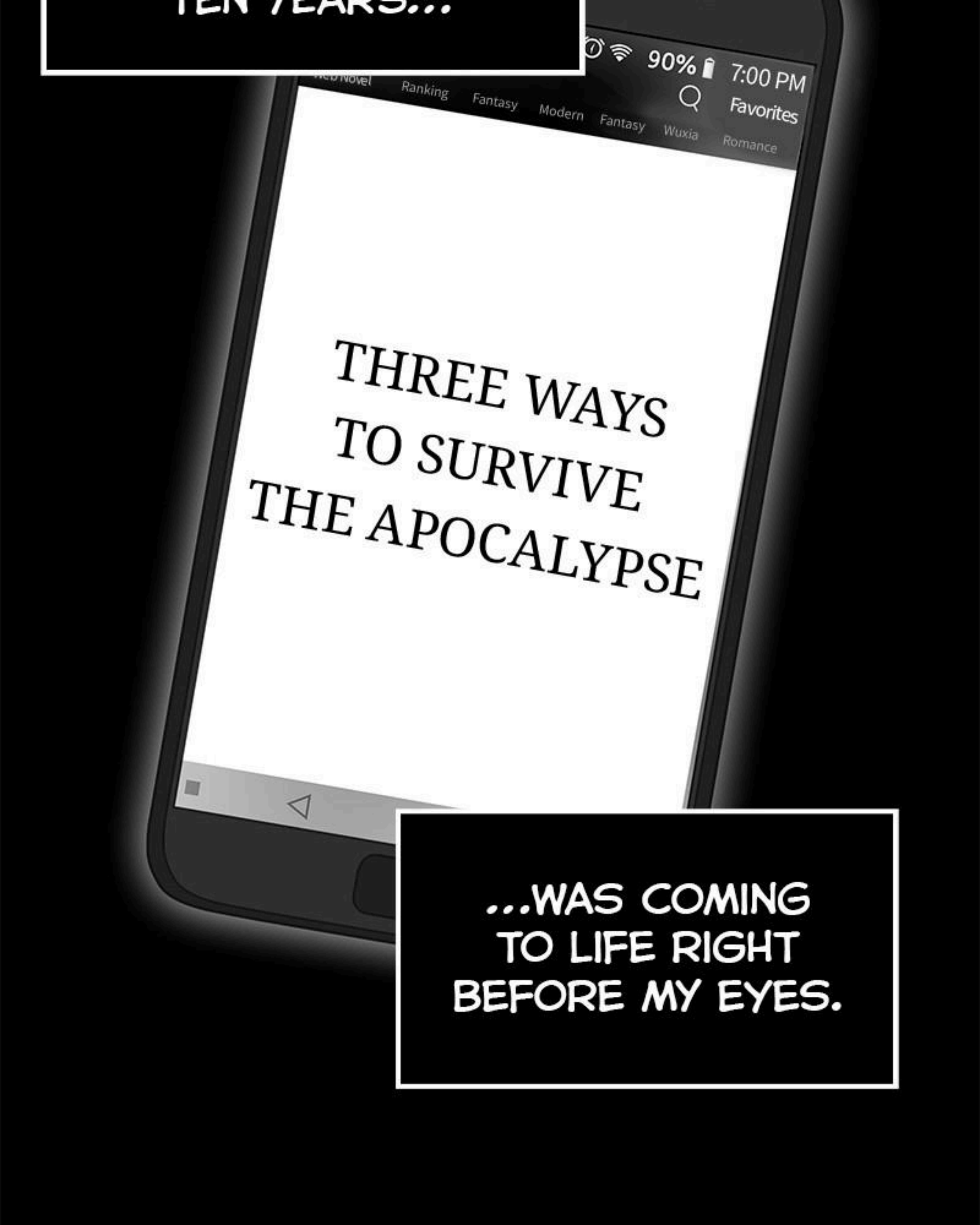
...BUT
I COULDN'T DENY IT
ANY LONGER.
NO...

I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ADMIT IT NOW.
SOMEONE PLEASE OPEN THE DOOR!
BANG
BANG
TRY BREAKING IT WITH A HAMMER!
I DON'T KNOW WHY.

KNOW WHY,

BUT IT WAS CLEAR THAT...

...*TWSA*, WHICH I'VE BEEN READING FOR OVER TEN YEARS


TEN YEARS...
90%
7:00 PM
Ranking
Fantasy
Modern
Fantasy
Wuxia
Romance
Favorites
THREE WAYS TO SURVIVE THE APOCALYPSE
...WAS COMING TO LIFE RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES.

THINK...
SIGH...

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO...
TO SURVIVE?

COSMIC

CITADEL CENTER

Episode 3

Chapter 1

Chapter 1

The Beginning of the Paywall

Part 2

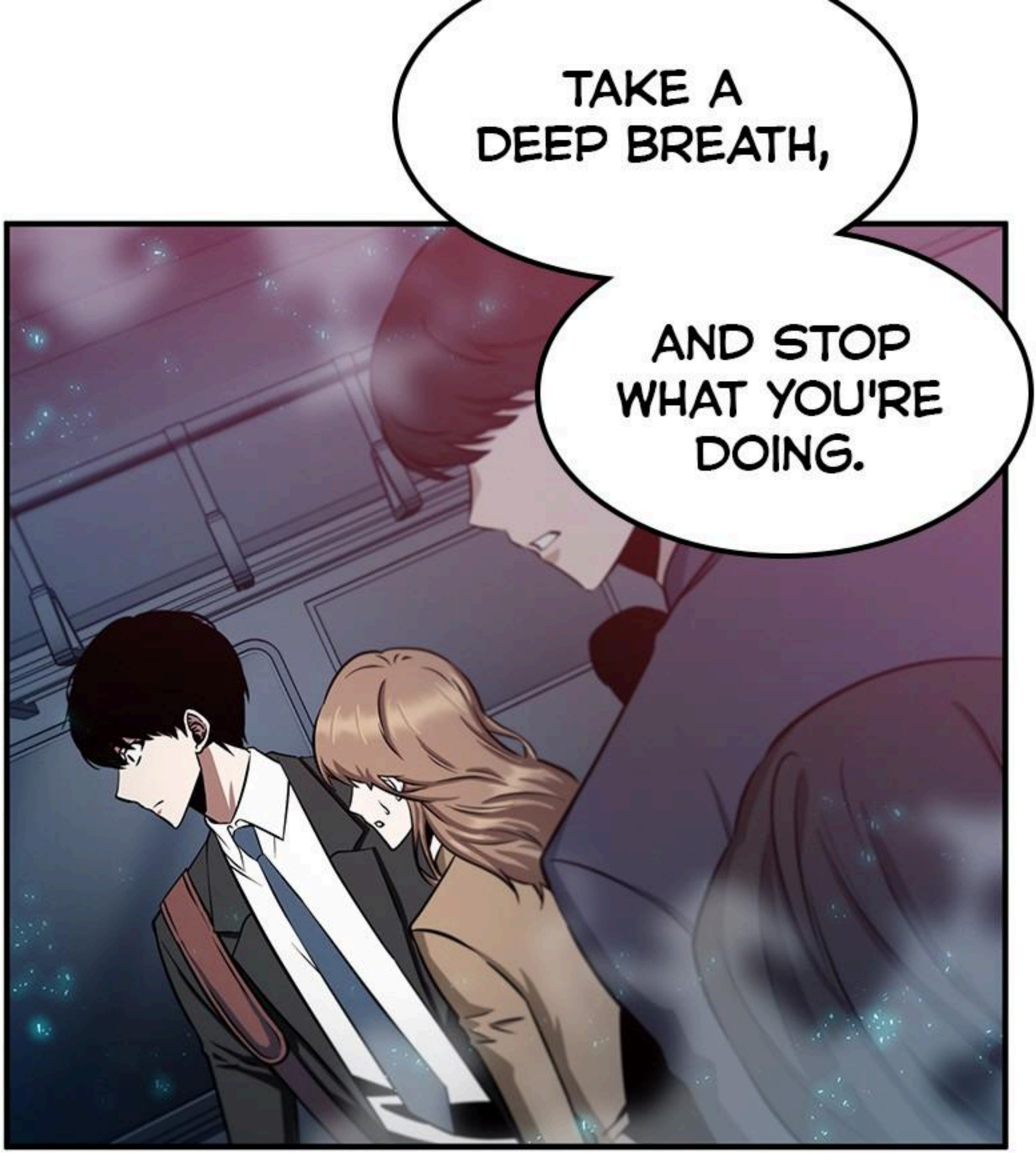
MAIN SCENARIO #1

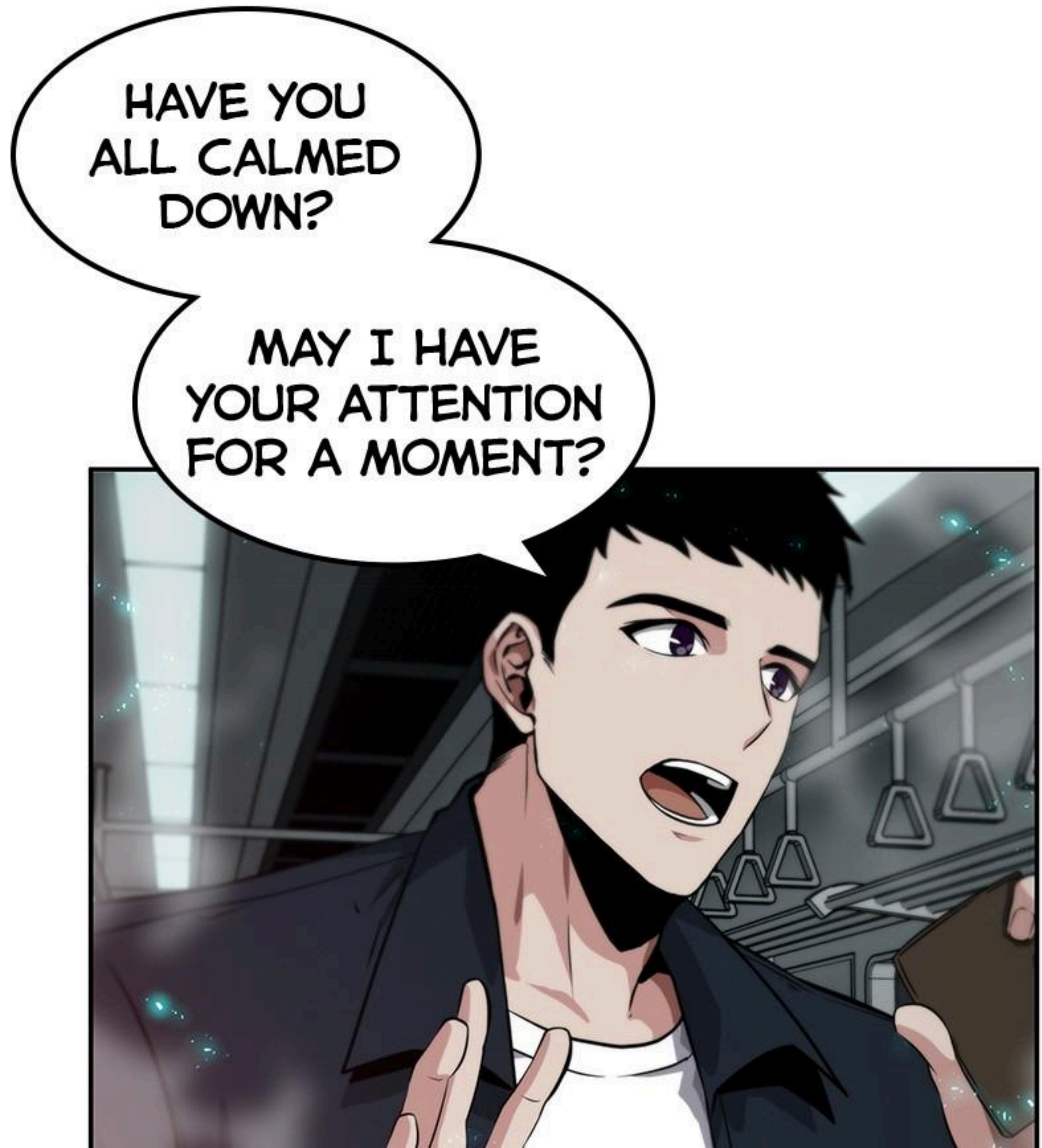
[PROVE YOUR VALUE]

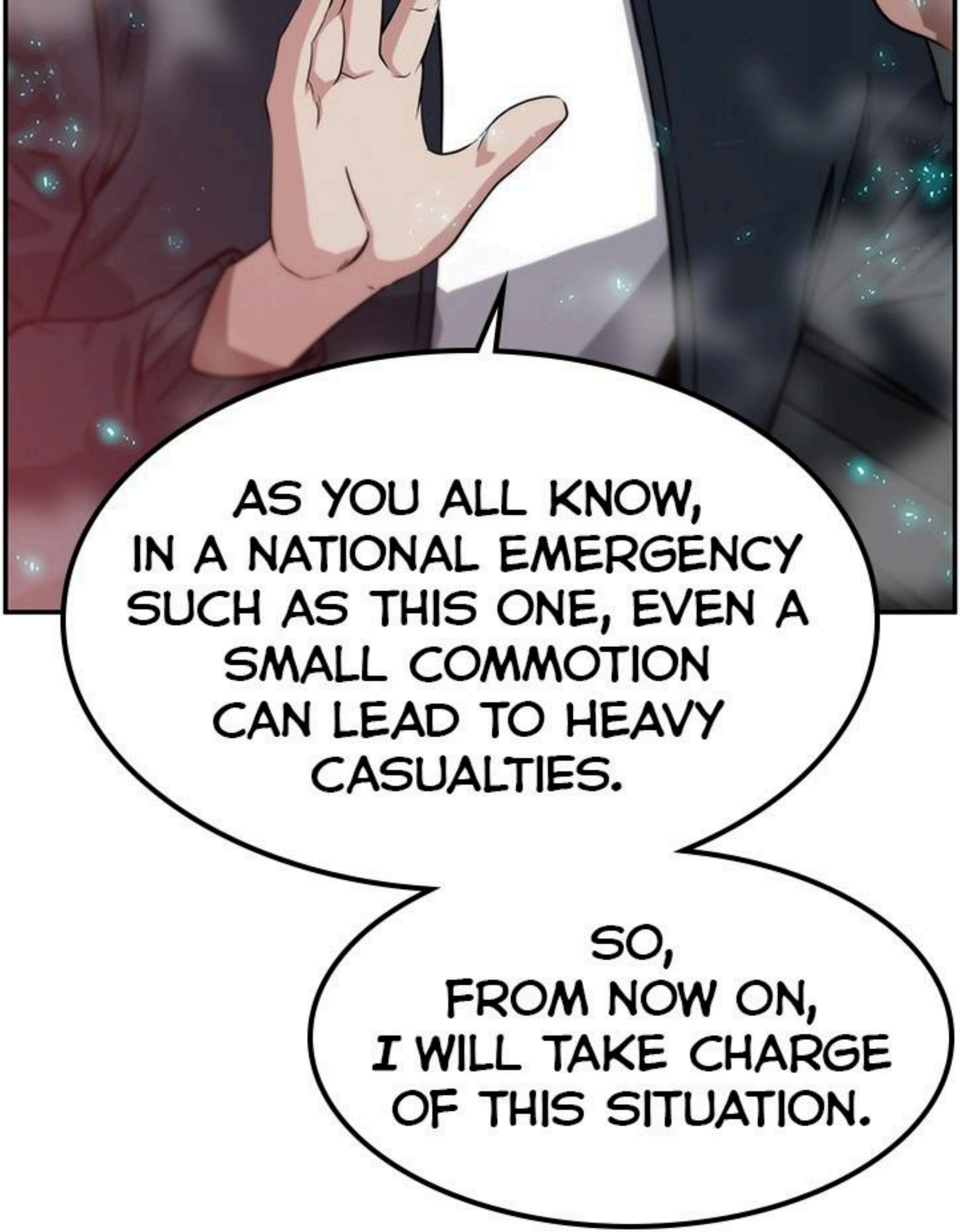
KILL ONE OR MORE LIVING ORGANISMS.

CATEGORY: MAIN
DIFFICULTY: F
TIME LIMIT: 30 MINUTES
REWARD: 300 COINS
PENALTY FOR FAILURE: DEATH

OKAY, EVERYONE!
CALM DOWN.


TAKE A DEEP BREATH,
AND STOP WHAT YOU'RE DOING.


HAVE YOU ALL CALMED DOWN?
MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION FOR A MOMENT?


AS YOU ALL KNOW, IN A NATIONAL EMERGENCY SUCH AS THIS ONE, EVEN A SMALL COMMOTION CAN LEAD TO HEAVY CASUALTIES.
SO, FROM NOW ON, I WILL TAKE CHARGE OF THIS SITUATION.

WHAT? WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
A NATIONAL EMERGENCY? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
WHAT?
I'M...

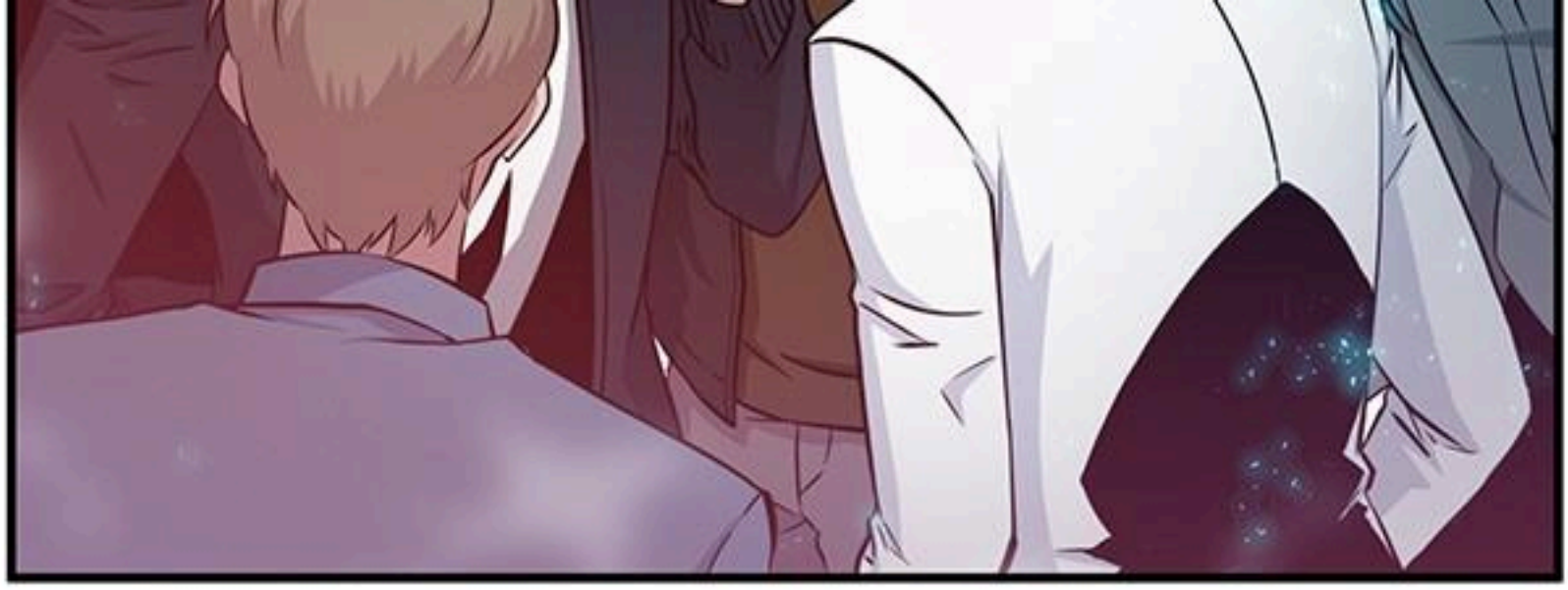
...AN ARMY LIEUTENANT

LIEUTENANT CURRENTLY SERVING IN UNIT 6502.

Public Official

MURMUR
A LIEUTENANT?
MURMUR
HE'S FROM THE MILITARY.
MURMUR...

I JUST RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM MY UNIT.
A MESSAGE?



OH MY GOD.
THIS IS A LEVEL ONE NATIONAL EMERGENCY ALERT. PLEASE RETURN TO YOUR UNIT ASAP. THIS IS NOT A DRILL.
A N-NATIONAL EMERGENCY?

HEY, ARMY MAN! WHAT IN THE WORLD IS GOING ON?
I'M TRYING MY BEST TO CONTACT THE ARMY BASE BUT...

WHAT ABOUT THE BLUE HOUSE?!
CONTACT THE PRESIDENT RIGHT THIS MINUTE!

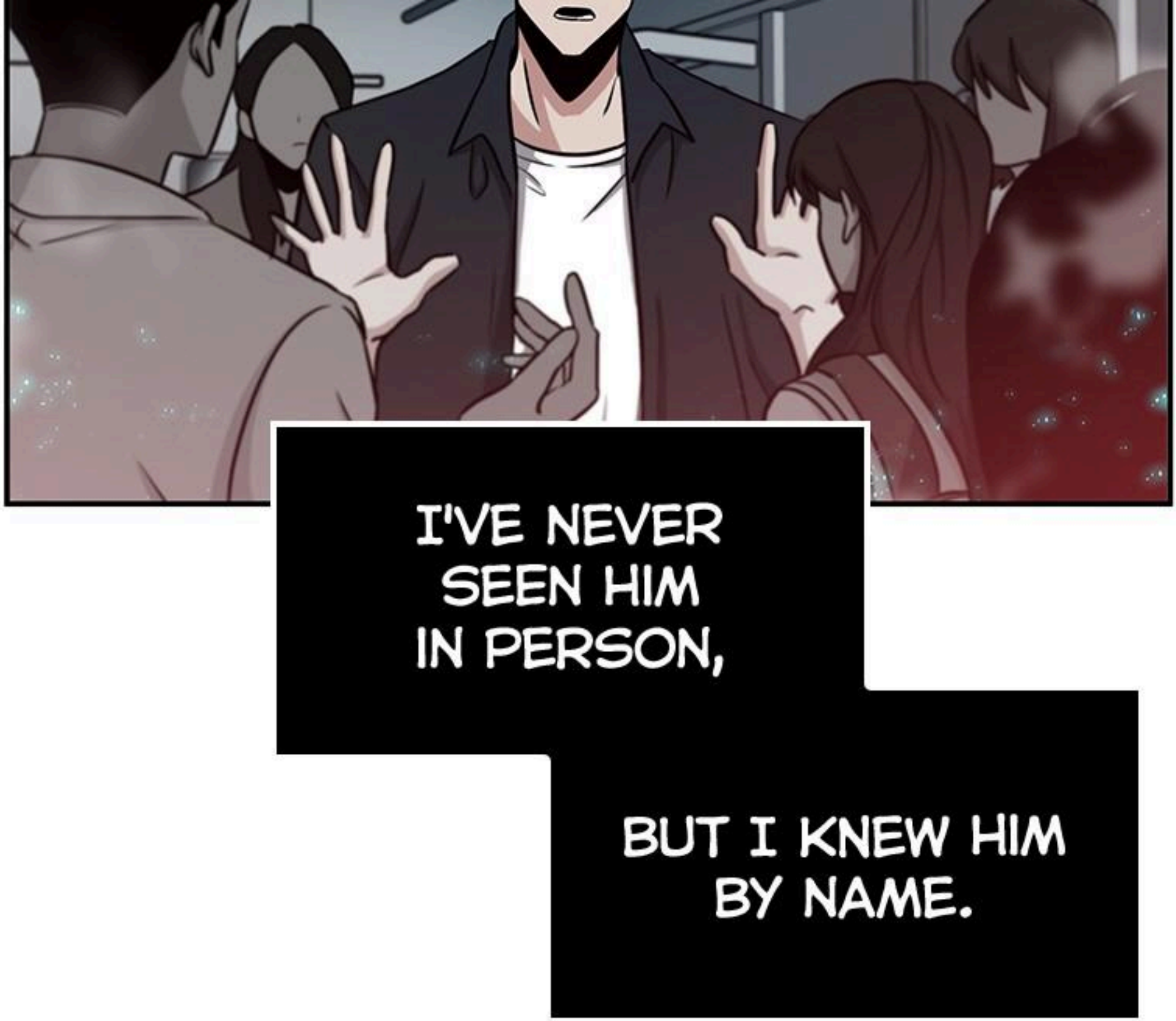
I'M SORRY BUT I'M JUST A SOLDIER, SO I DON'T HAVE CLEARANCE TO CONTACT THE BLUE HOUSE DIRECTLY.
THEN HOW ON EARTH ARE YOU GOING TO CONTROL

THIS SITUATION?

I ALREADY KNEW THIS WOULD TURN INTO A NATIONAL EMERGENCY, SO I WASN'T SURPRISED.

IT WAS SOMETHING ELSE THAT TOOK ME BY SURPRISE.
FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY...
"LIEUTENANT HYEONSEONG LEE"...

I KNOW HIM.


I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM IN PERSON,
BUT I KNEW HIM BY NAME.

STEEL BLADE
HYEONSEONG LEE
REPUBLIC OF KOREA
ARMY LIEUTENANT

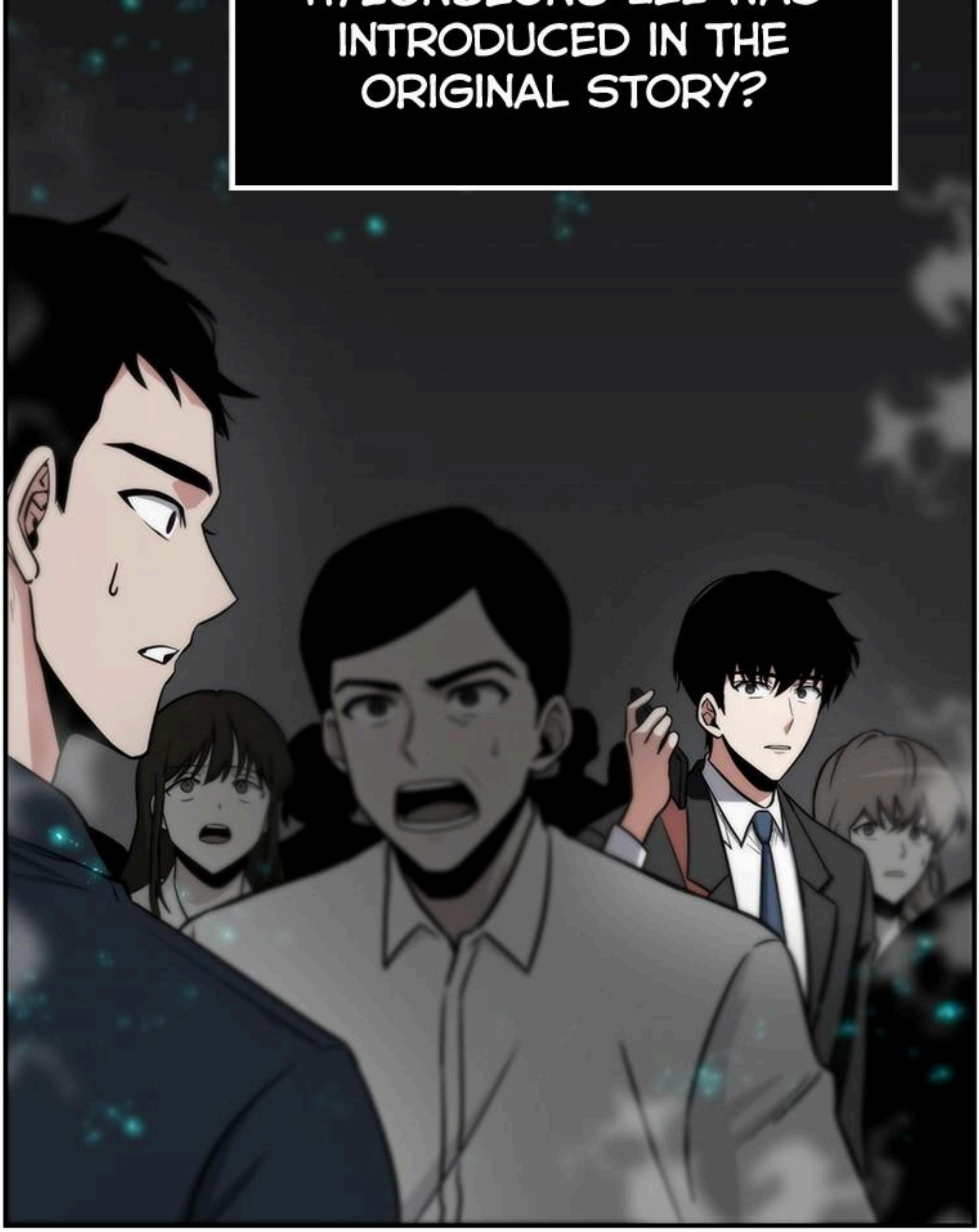
HE WAS ONE OF THE SUPPORTING CHARACTERS IN *TWSA*.

SCRATCH

HE TALKS AND ACTS JUST LIKE HE DOES IN TWSA.

BUT...

STOP


HYEONGSEONG LEE WAS
INTRODUCED IN THE
ORIGINAL STORY?

NO.
I WAS ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN...
...THAT THIS WAS NOT HOW HYEONSEONG LEE FIRST APPEARED IN THE STORY.

HE ORIGINALLY APPEARED AFTER THE FIRST SCENARIO.
THEN... WHAT IS GOING ON?

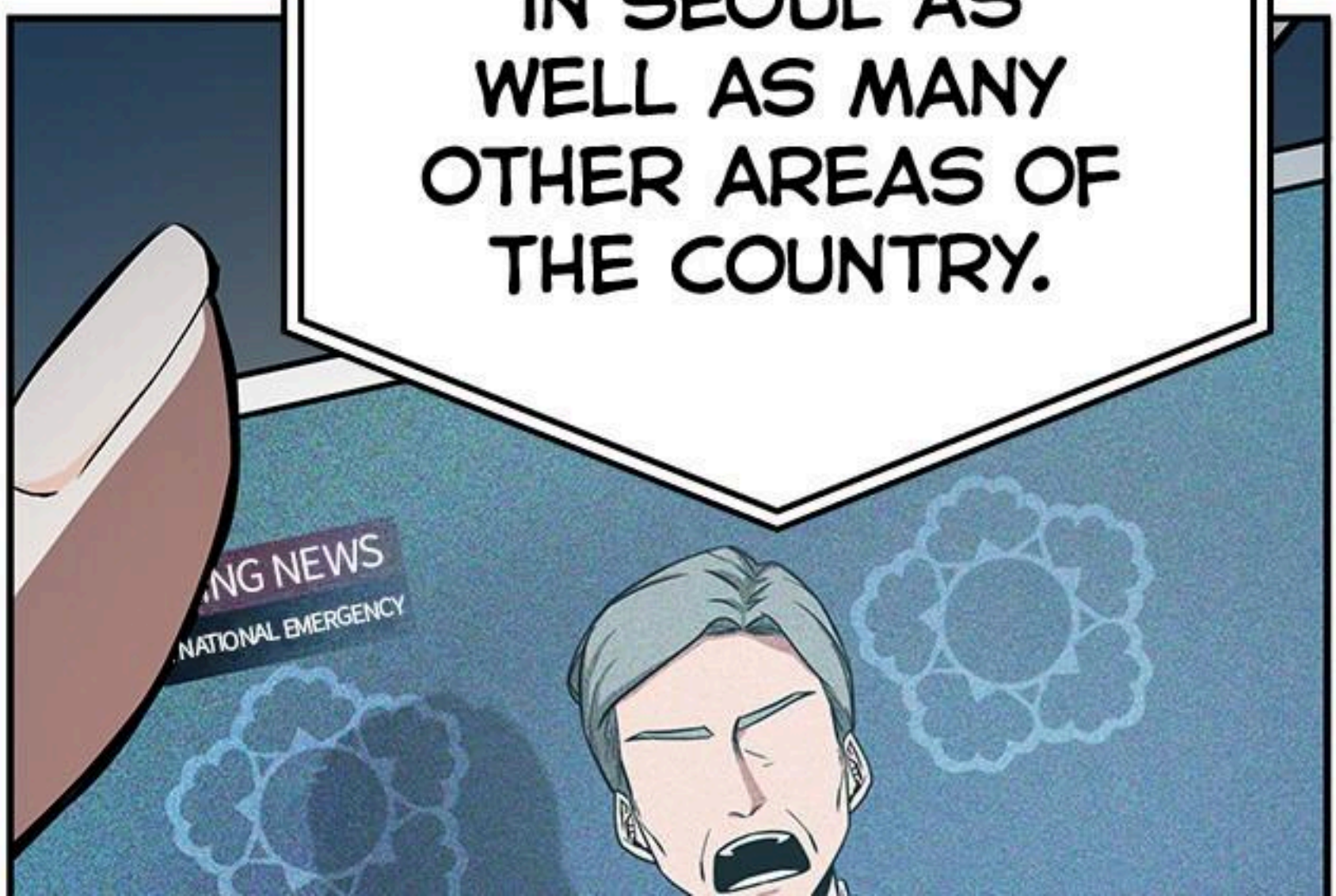
IF I COULD JUST READ IT AGAIN, I WOULD KNOW EXACTLY WHAT'S HAPPENING...

THE PRIME MINISTER IS MAKING A SPEECH!
IT REALLY IS A LEVEL ONE NATIONAL EMERGENCY!

DOKJA, LOOK...
DEAR CITIZENS OF KOREA...

THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF UNIDENTIFIED TERRORIST ATTACKS,

IN SEOUL AS WELL AS MANY OTHER AREAS OF THE COUNTRY.



THIS WAS ALSO IN THE STORY.

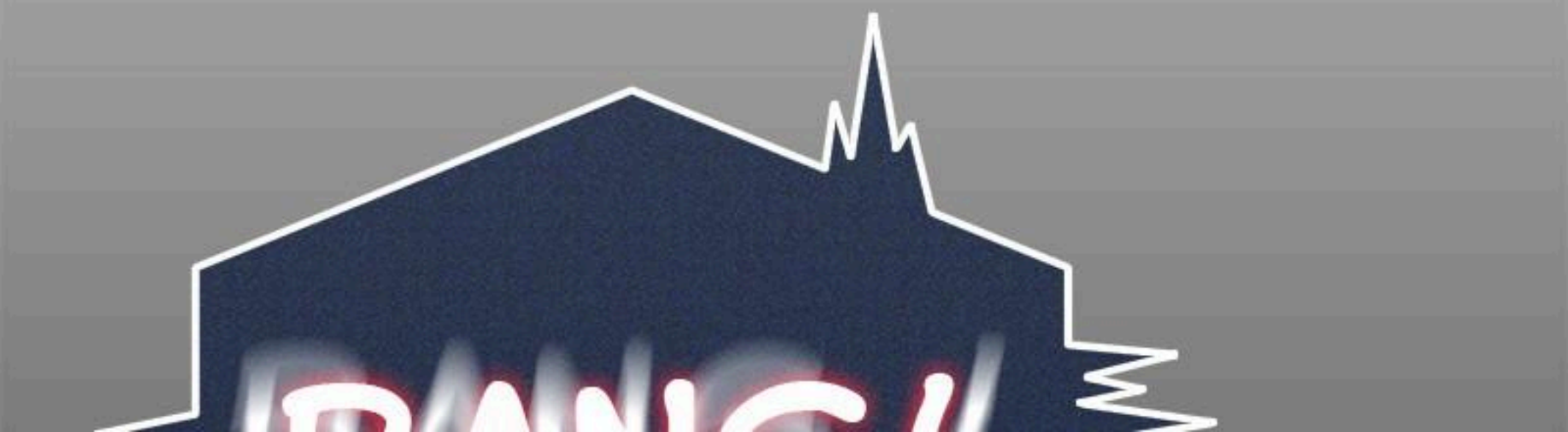
YES, IT WOULD BE EASIER TO BELIEVE THAT WE'RE UNDER A TERRORIST ATTACK.

BUT NOW THAT
I'M ACTUALLY HEARING IT,
IT SOUNDS RIDICULOUS.

APPARENTLY, THE TERRORISTS ALREADY GOT HIM.
WHAT? REALLY?

I DON'T KNOW. I SAW IT IN THE COMMENTS SECTION OF THE VIDEO.
THEN IT'S JUST A GROUNDLESS RUMOR!!
IT'S NOT JUST A GROUNDLESS RUMOR.

AND SOON...



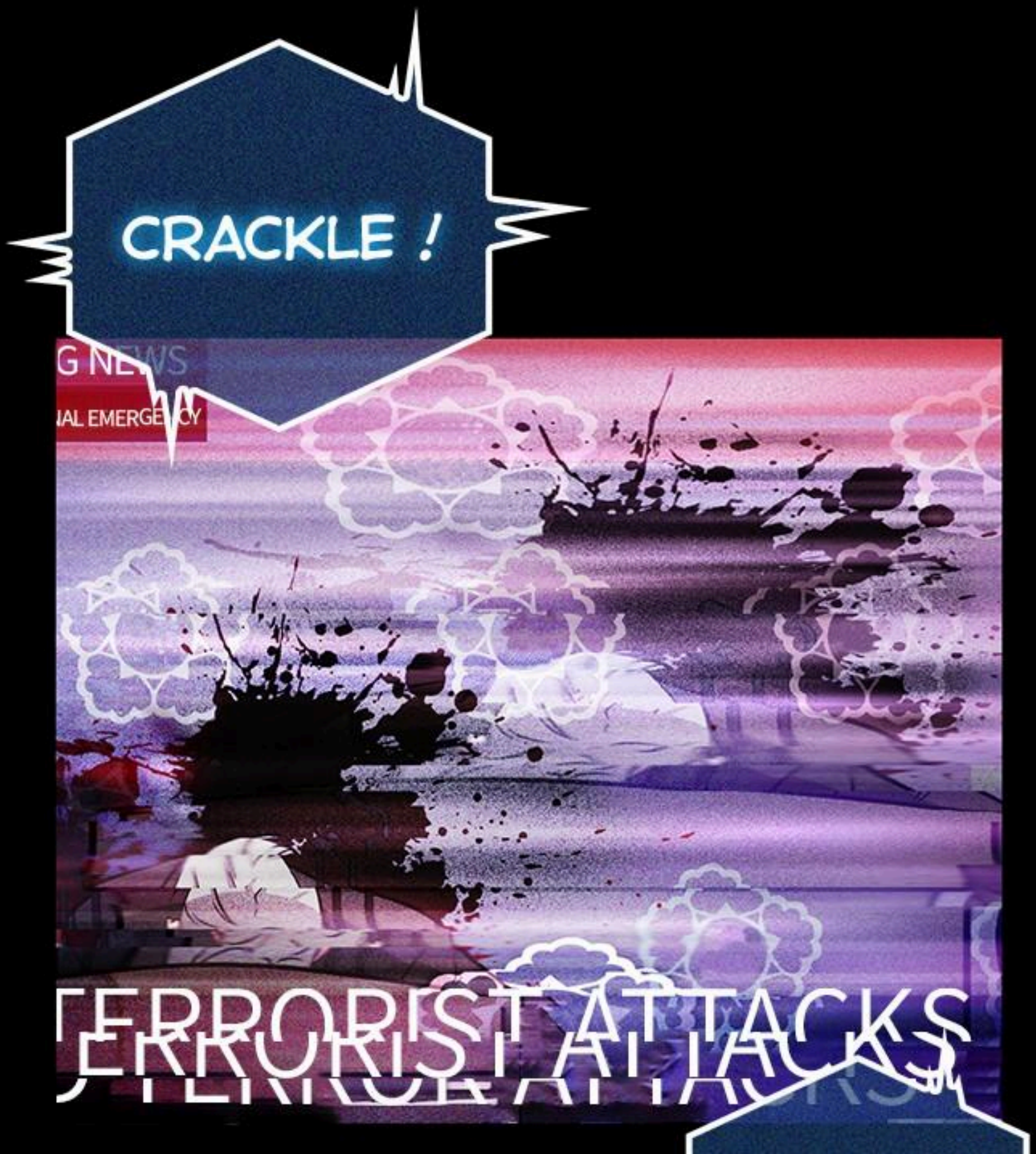
BANG!

BANG!
BANG!

AHH!

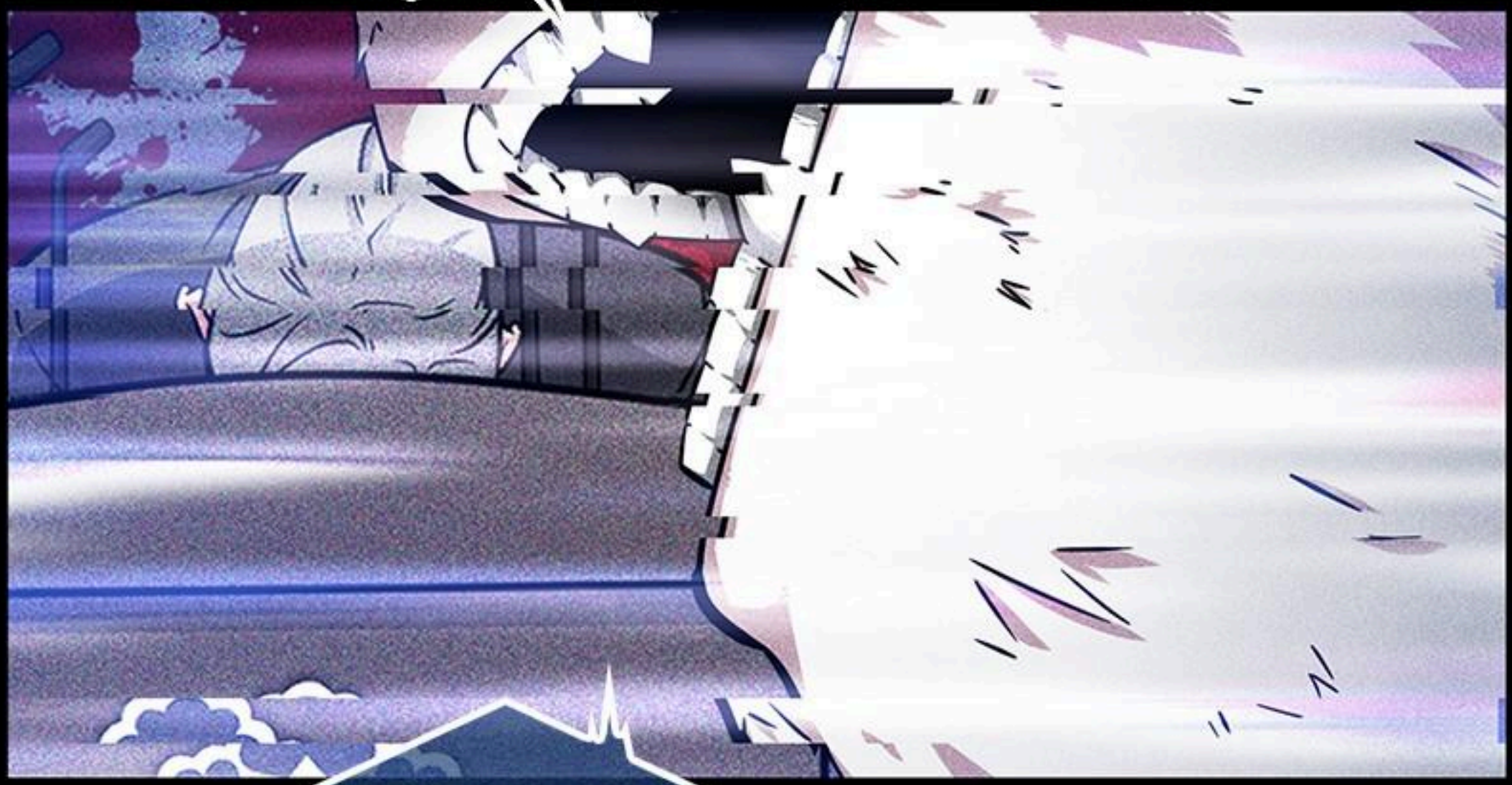
EEK!

BREAKING NEWS
LEVEL ONE NATIONAL EMERGENCY
THE P-PRIME MINISTER...
UNIDENTIFIED TERRORIST ATTACKS

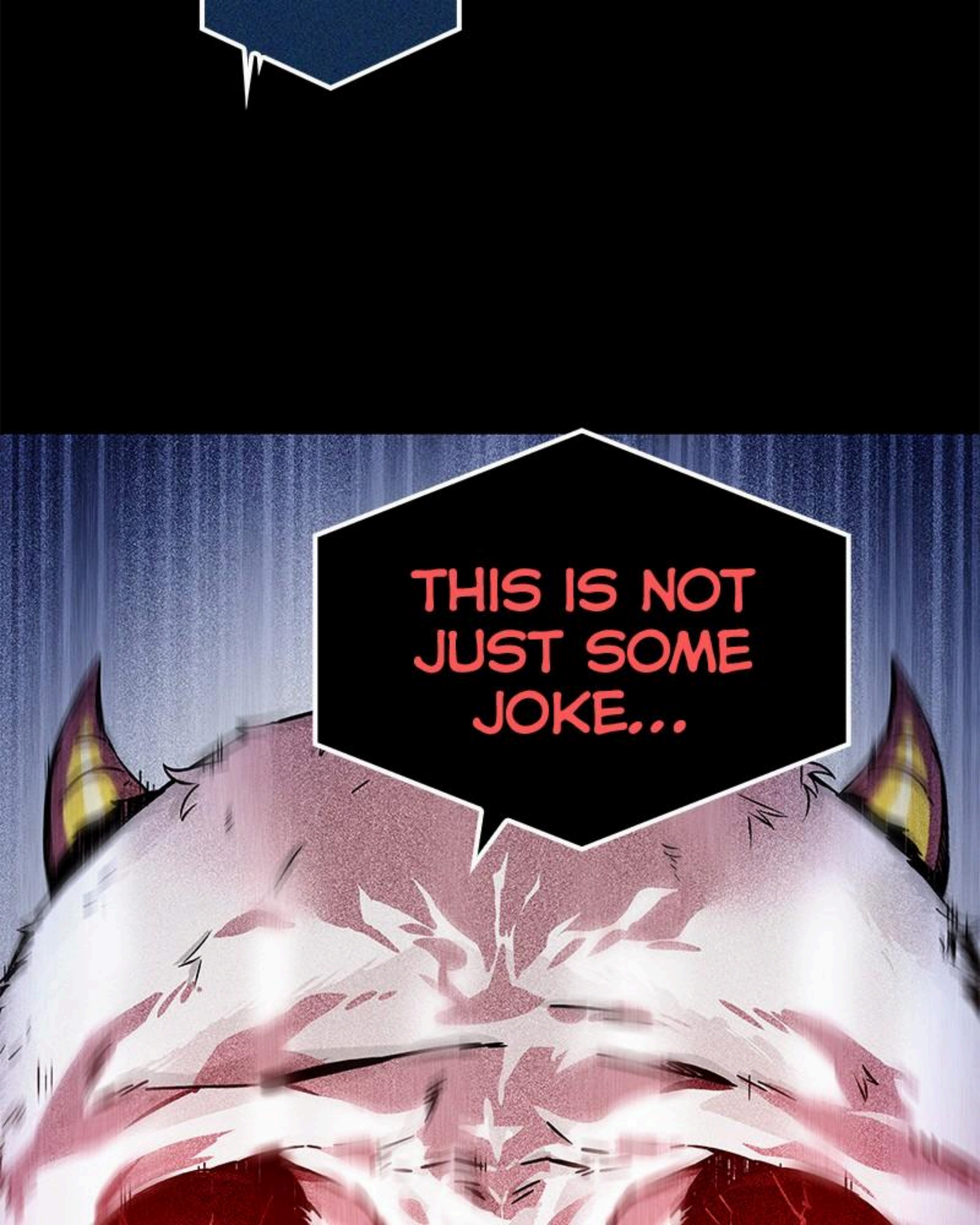

CRACKLE !
TERRORIST ATTACKS

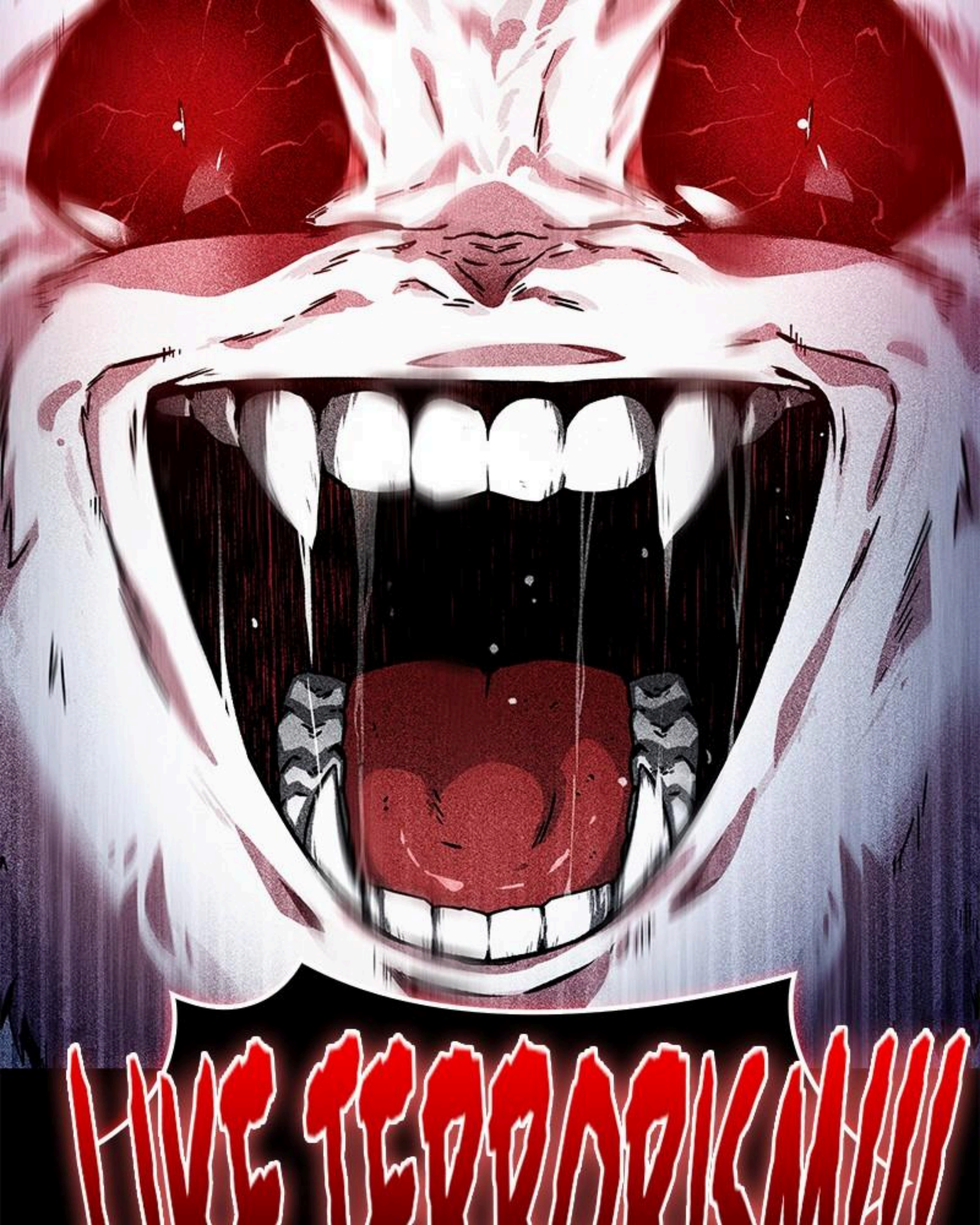
CRACKLE !

I ALREADY TOLD YOU.

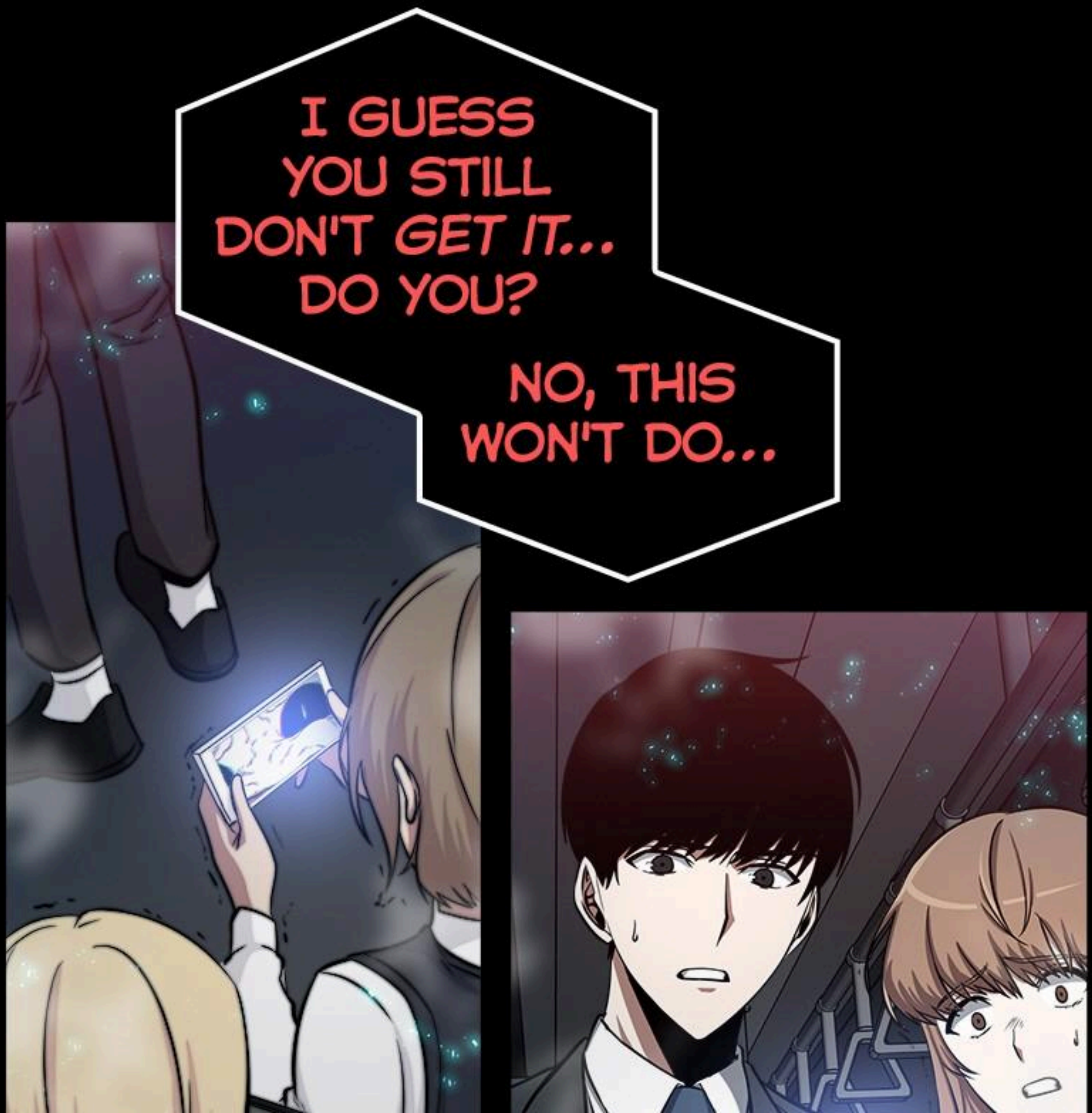


CRACKLE !


THIS IS NOT JUST SOME JOKE...


HYE TEOOOPIKAHH

THE TERRORIZE


I GUESS YOU STILL DON'T GET IT... DO YOU?
NO, THIS WON'T DO...

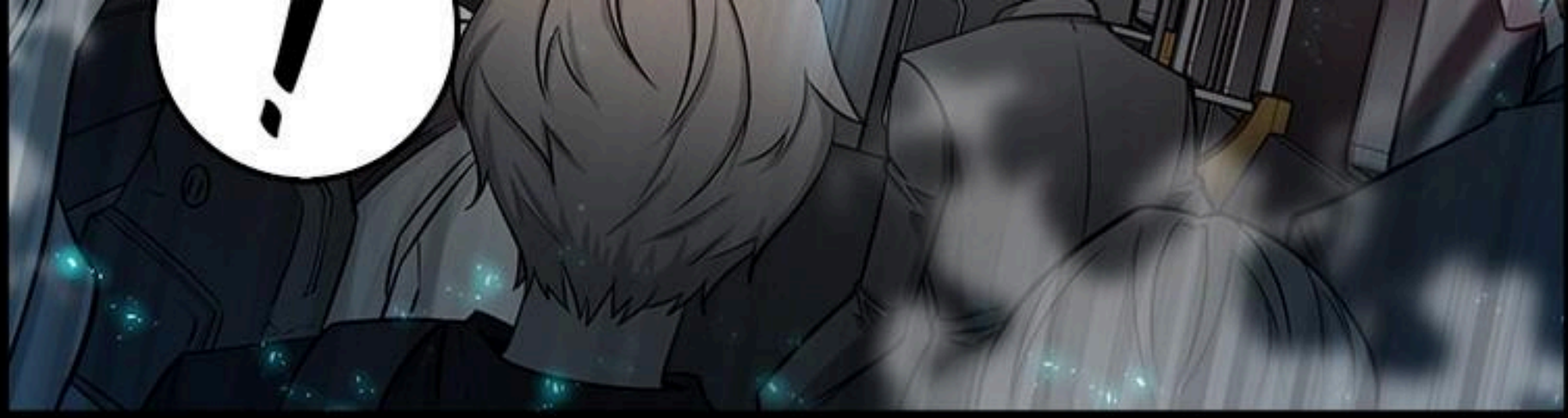
DO YOU THINK WE'RE PLAYING A GAME RIGHT NOW?

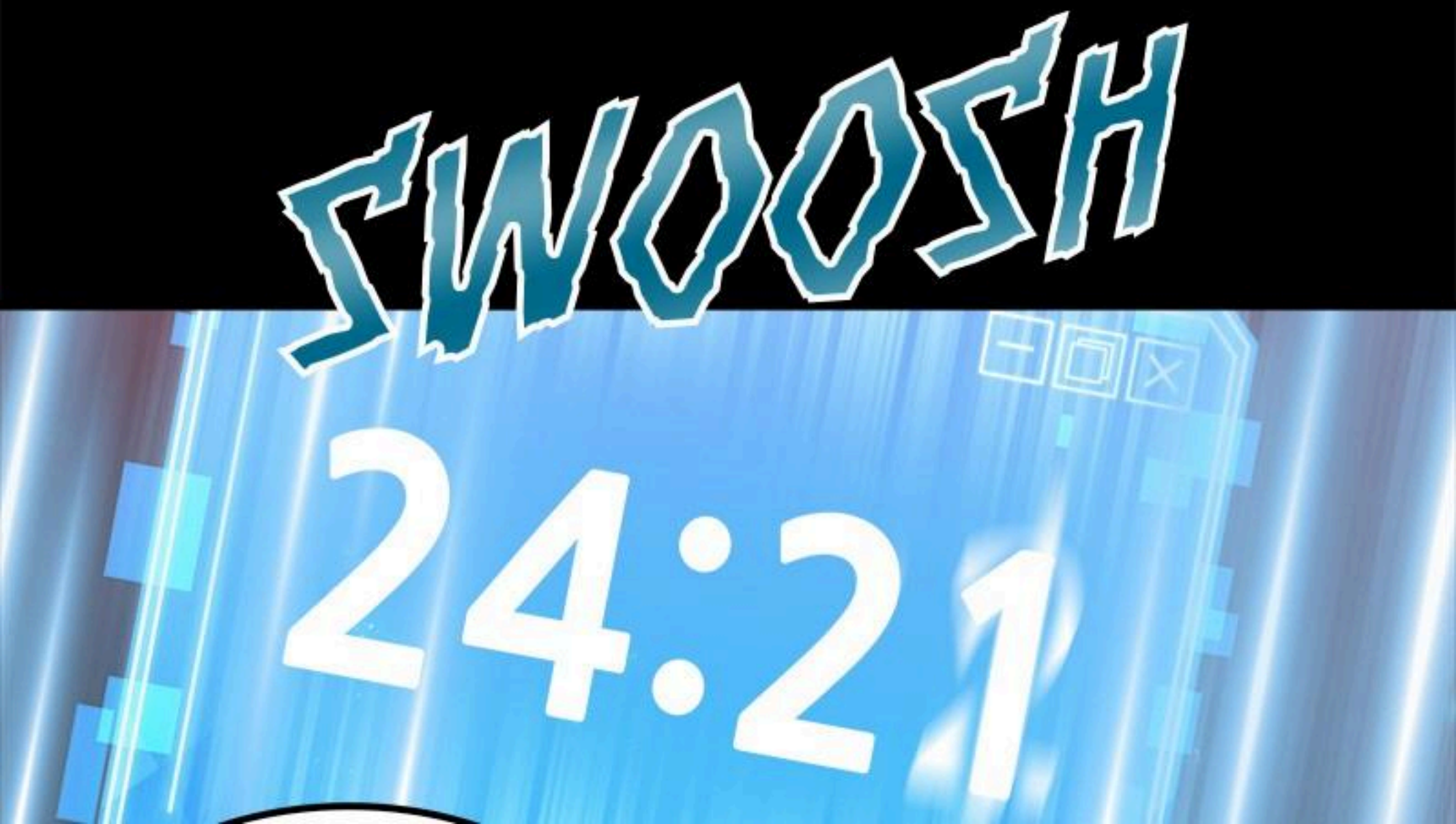
HAHA

FINE. ACCORDING TO MY RESEARCH, PEOPLE FROM THIS COUNTRY ARE GOOD AT GAMES.

THEN, LET'S...
SQUEEZE
...RAISE THE DIFFICULTY, SHALL WE?

FLASH
24:22


!


SWOOSH
24:21

T-THAT'S...

SWOOSH

23:19

?!

THE REMAINING TIME HAS BEEN REDUCED.

YOU NOW HAVE TEN MINUTES LEFT.

SWOOSH

MAIN SCENARIO #1

[PROVE YOUR VALUE]

KILL ONE OR MORE LIVING ORGANISMS.

CRACKLE

CATEGORY: MAIN

CATEGORY: MAIN

DIFFICULTY: F

TIME LIMIT: 30 MINUTES

REWARD: 300 COINS

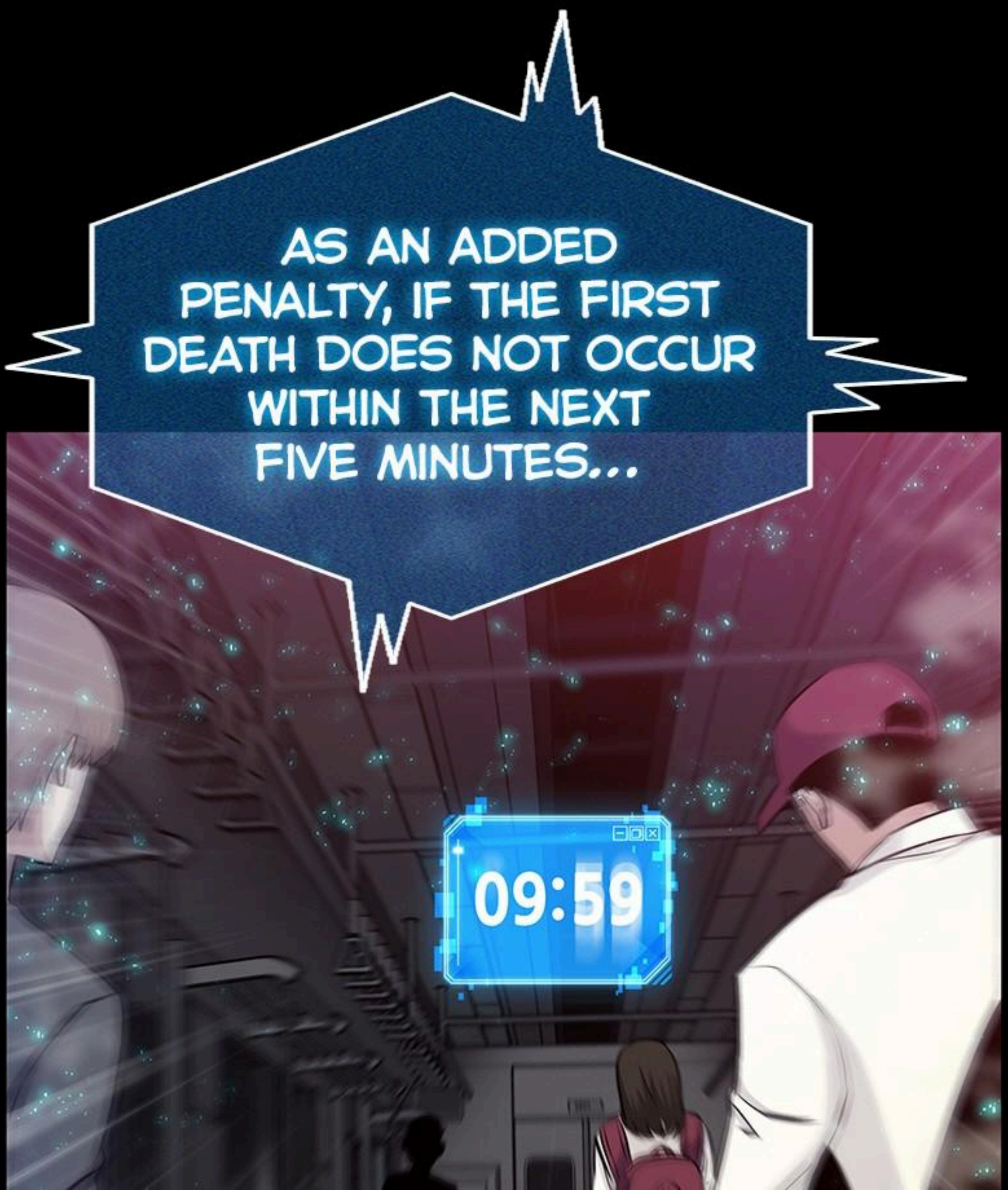
PENALTY FOR FAILURE: DEATH

GORY: MAIN
CULTY: F

LIMIT: 10 MINUTES

ARD: 300 COINS

LTY FOR FAILURE: DEATH


AS AN ADDED PENALTY, IF THE FIRST DEATH DOES NOT OCCUR WITHIN THE NEXT FIVE MINUTES...
09:59

...EVERY LIVING ORGANISM IN THIS CABIN WILL BE TERMINATED.

W-WHAT KIND OF A SICK JOKE IS THIS?
DID YOU HEAR WHAT THAT THING JUST SAID? DID YOU?
ARMY MAN! WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
WHERE ARE THE

POLICE?!
EVERYONE, PLEASE CALM DOWN AND LISTEN TO ME...

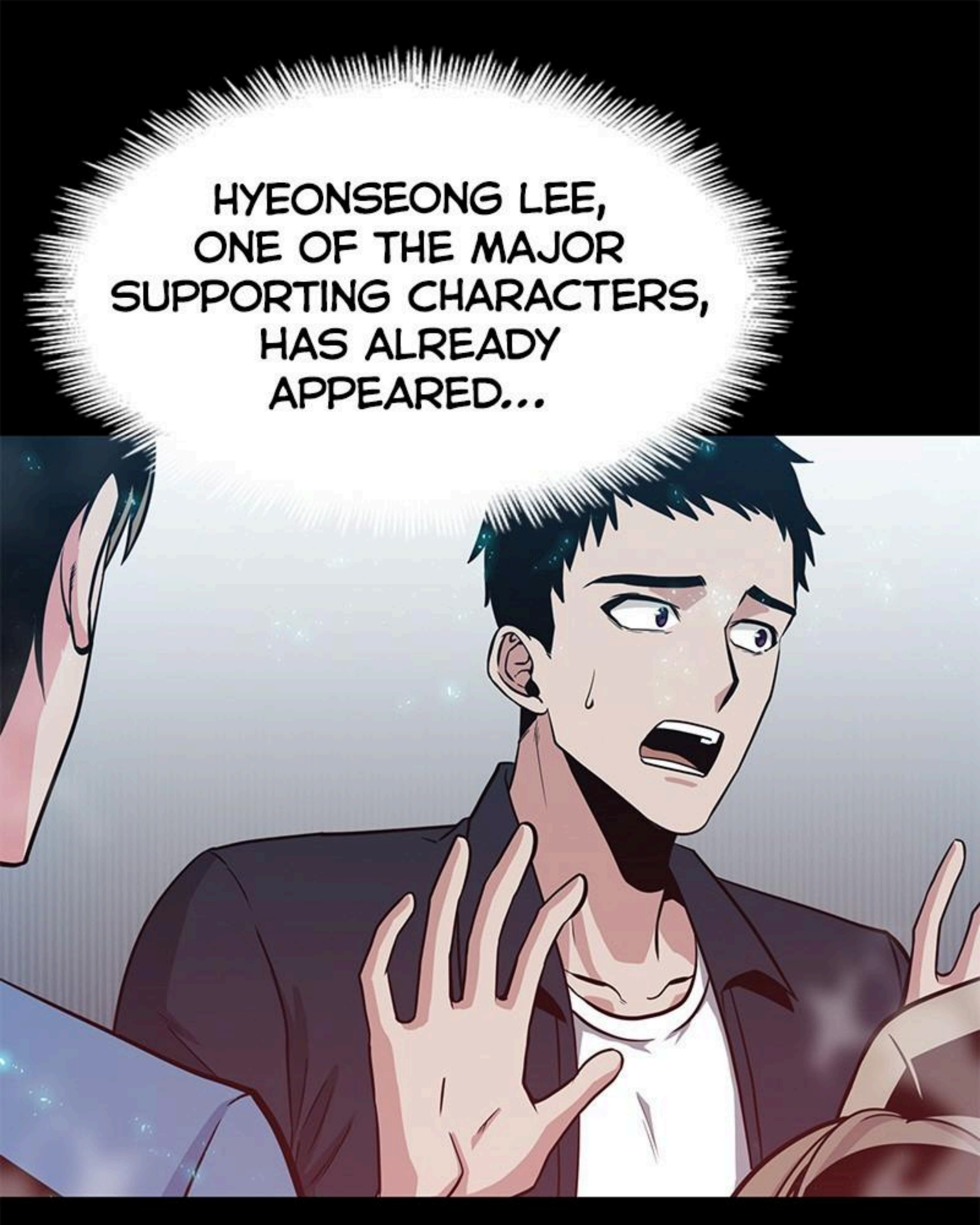
SQUEEZE

YES.

EVERYTHING IS GOING EXACTLY AS I REMEMBER IT.

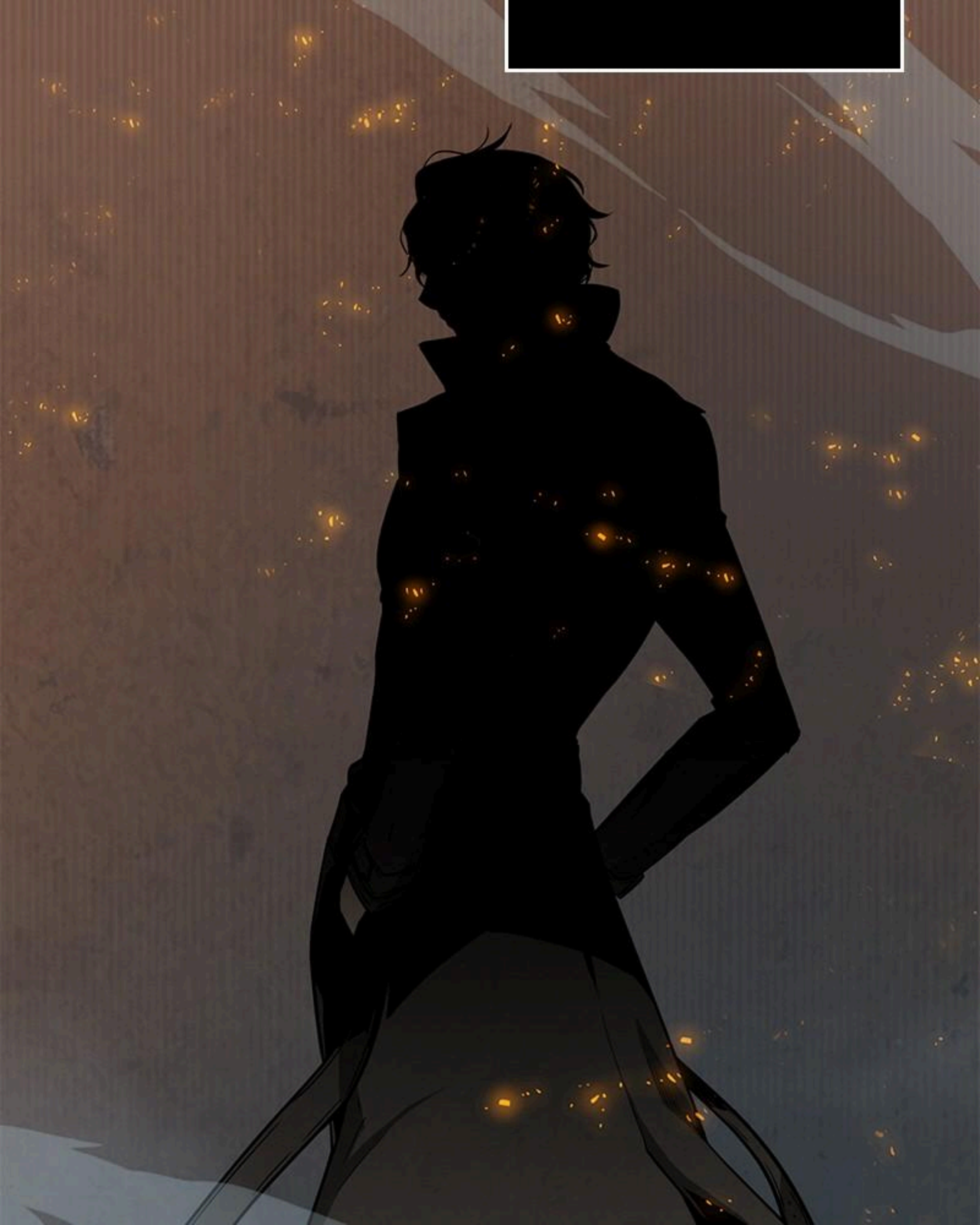
THE EVENTS ARE UNFOLDING EXACTLY THE SAME AS THE BEGINNING OF *TWSA*,

BUT
I CAN'T HELP
BUT FEEL THAT
SOMETHING
ISN'T RIGHT.


HYEONSEONG LEE, ONE OF THE MAJOR SUPPORTING CHARACTERS, HAS ALREADY APPEARED...

...BUT WHY HASN'T *HE*...

APPEARED YET?



IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, HE SHOULD BE MAKING AN APPEARANCE ANY MINUTE NOW.

EEK!

SOMEONE HAS BEEN MURDERED IN THE CABIN BEHIND US!

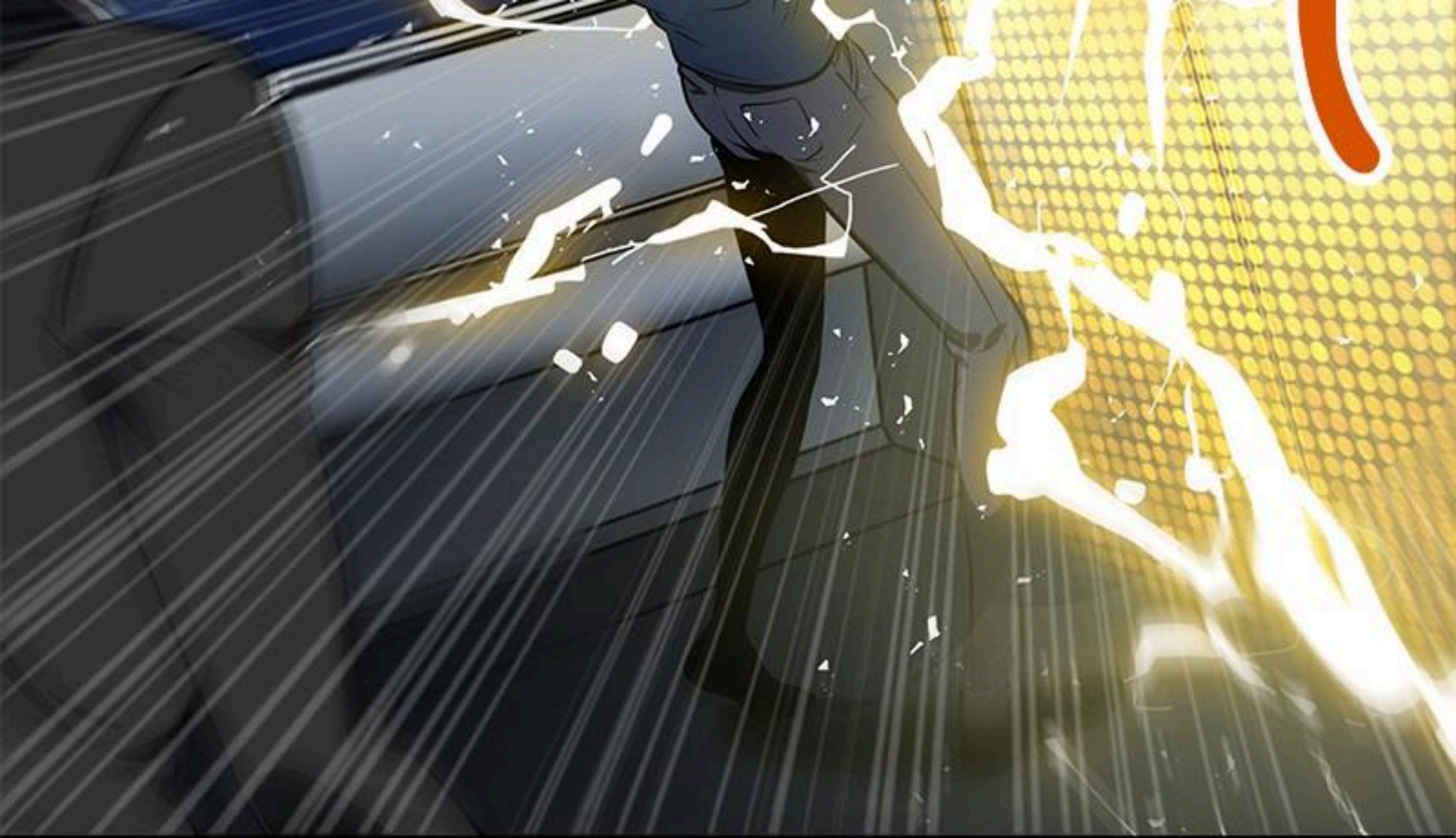
BANG
AHHH!!
DON'T LET THEM COME IN!
BANG
DON'T LET ANYONE

ANYONE THROUGH!!

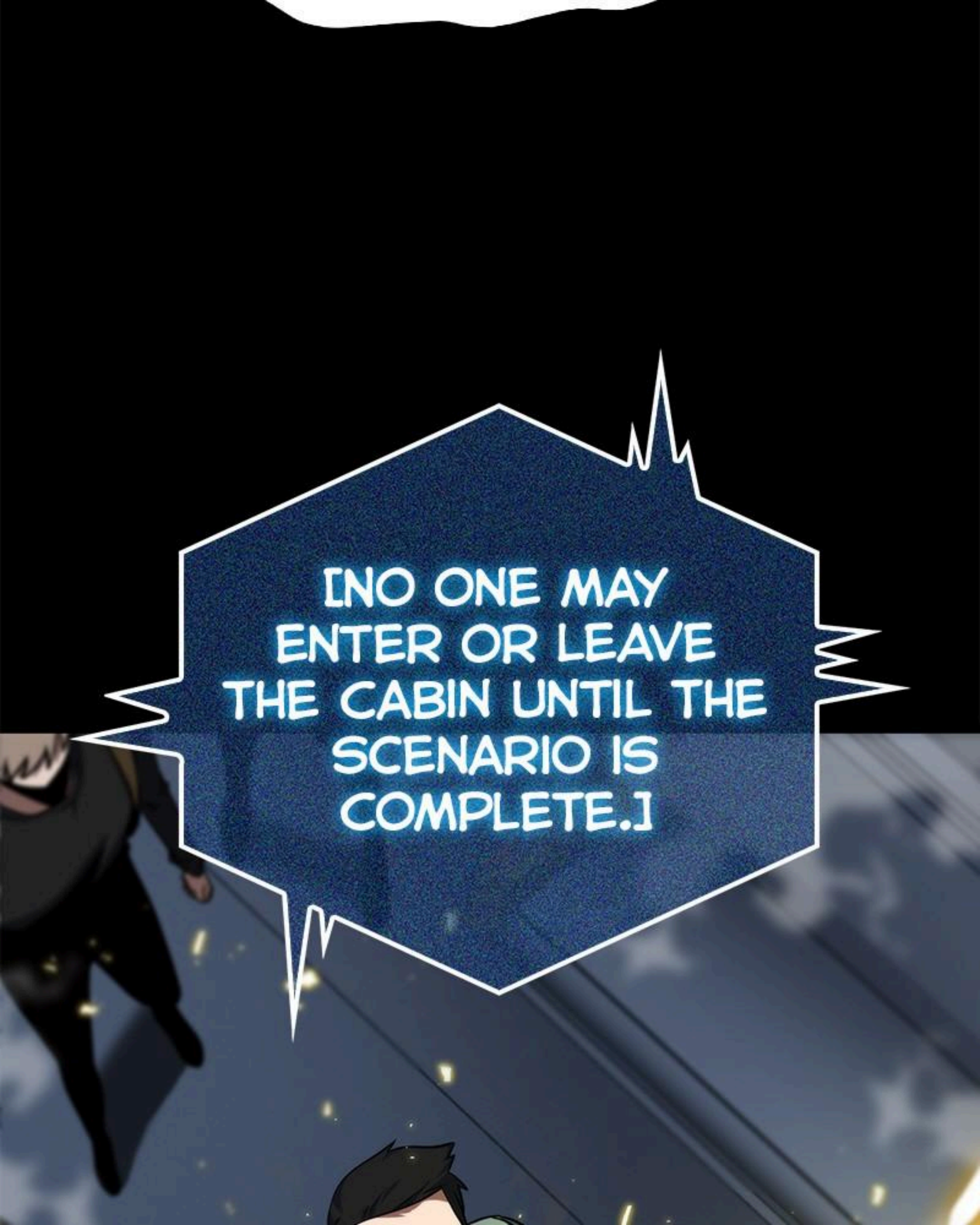
WE HAVE TO BLOCK THE--

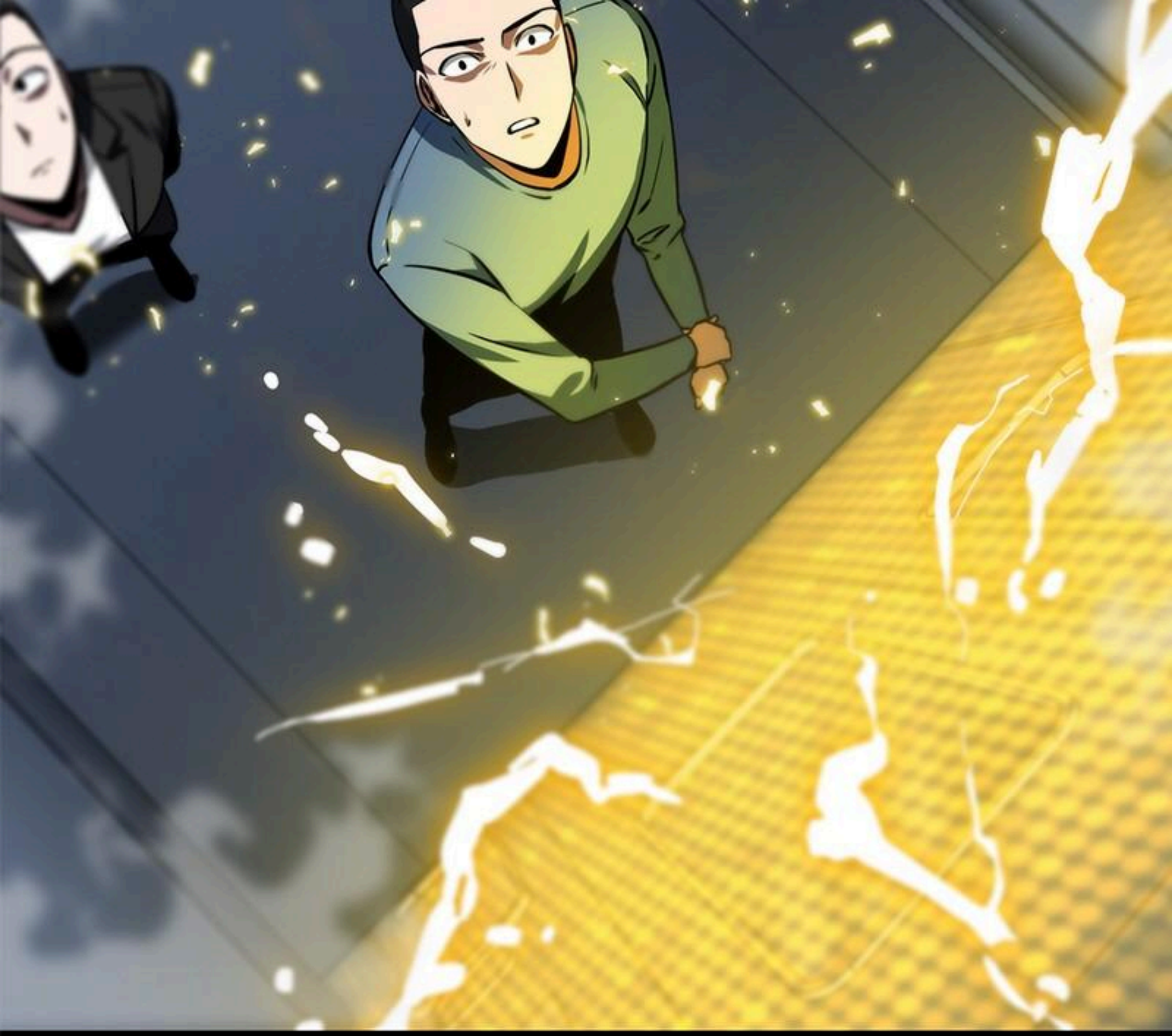
SPARK

AH!!!
BZZZZZT



THERE'S SOME KIND OF INVISIBLE WALL IN FRONT OF THE DOOR...


[NO ONE MAY ENTER OR LEAVE THE CABIN UNTIL THE SCENARIO IS COMPLETE.]



HAHA,
IT'S GETTING INTERESTING FOR SOME CABINS,

WHILE OTHERS HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED YET.

FINE.
I'LL GIVE YOU
A LITTLE JOLT
TO GET THE
BALL ROLLING

BALL ROLLING.

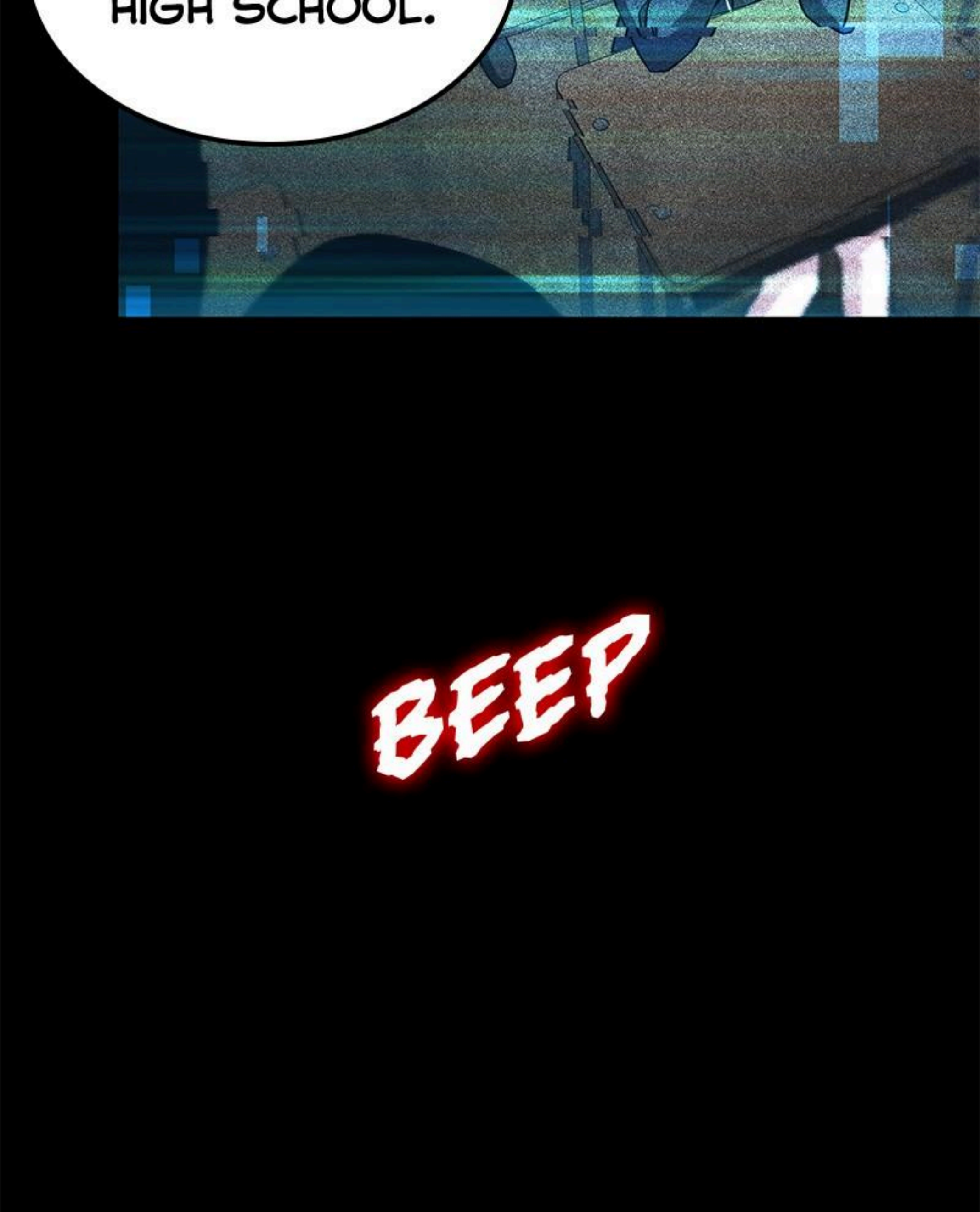
HOW ABOUT SHOWING YOU WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF YOU DON'T DO ANYTHING IN THE NEXT FIVE MINUTES?

SNAP

FLASH

HUH...?

THAT'S TAEPUNG GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL


HIGH SCHOOL.
BEEP

BEEBEEEP
CRASH

AHHH!!!

YOU HAVE EXCEEDED THE TIME LIMIT.

PROCEEDING WITH CHECKOUT.

SPLAT
SHUT

AHH!!!

SPLAT

H-HELP ME...! AHH!!

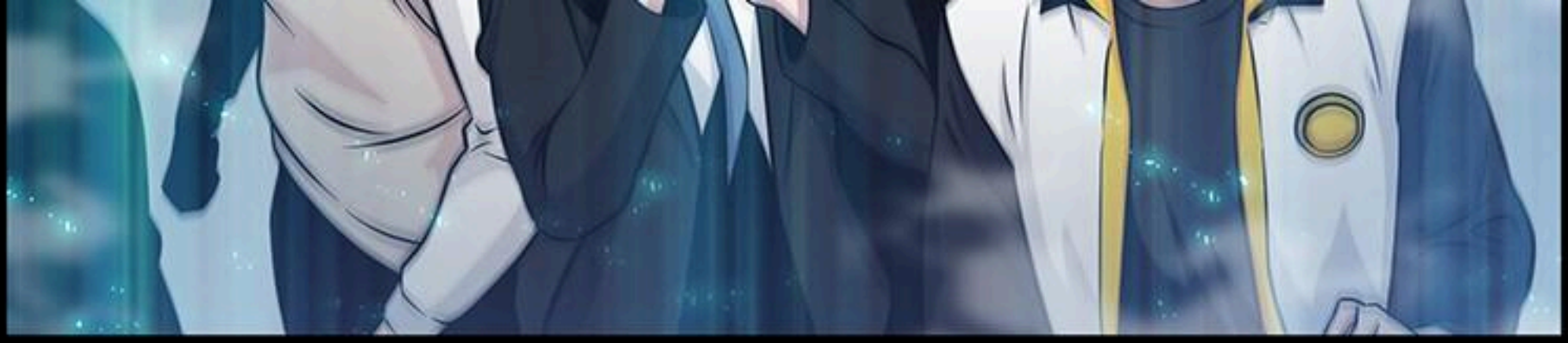
SPLAT

LET ME OUT!!!
LET ME--
CRACKLE

SPLAT
NO...

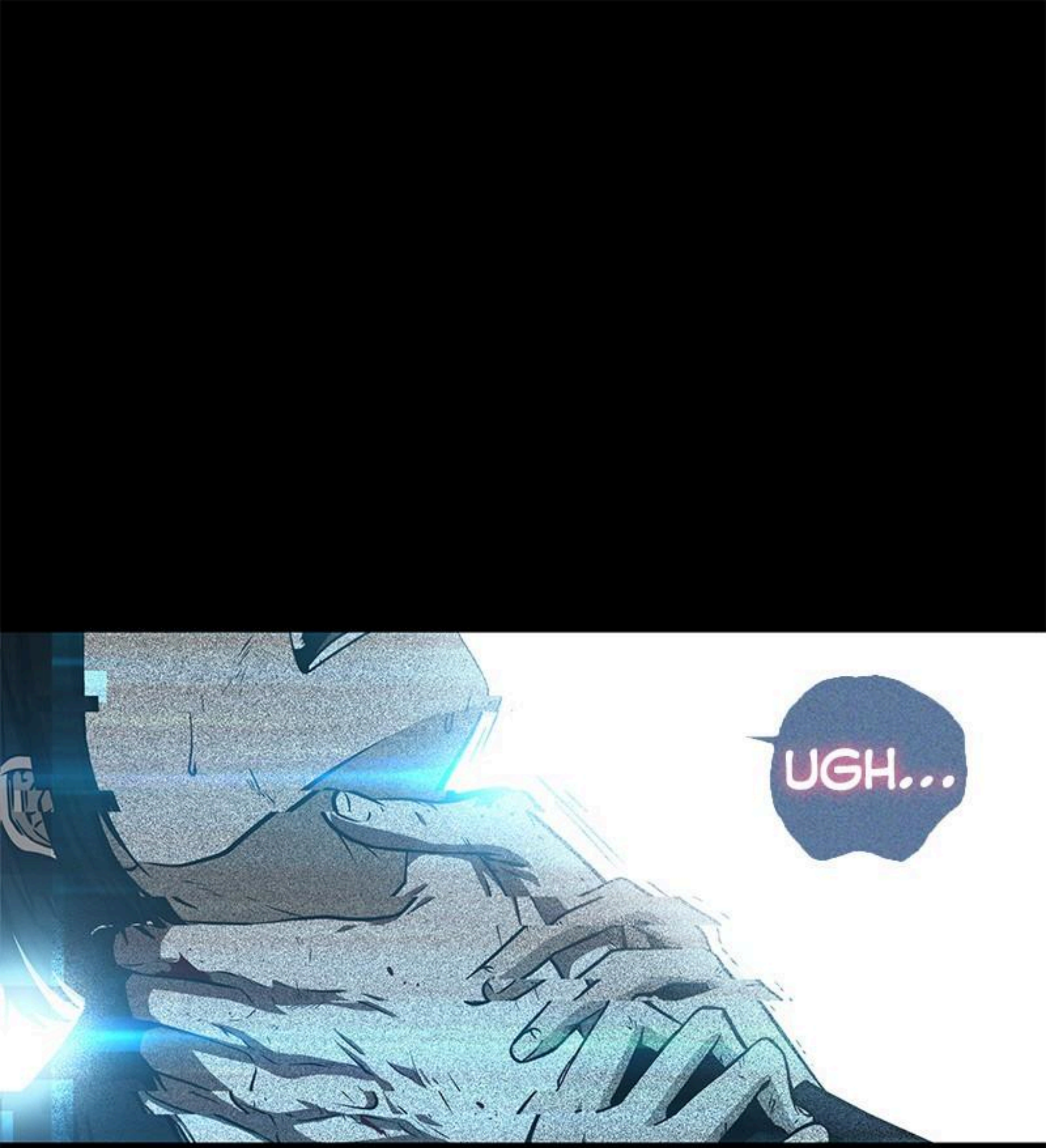
AH!!!

OH MY GOSH... HOW COULD THEY...?!



HUH?

STARE


UGH...

AH...
ARGH...

TREMBLE

SLIDE

CRASH!

CRACKLE

CRACKLE

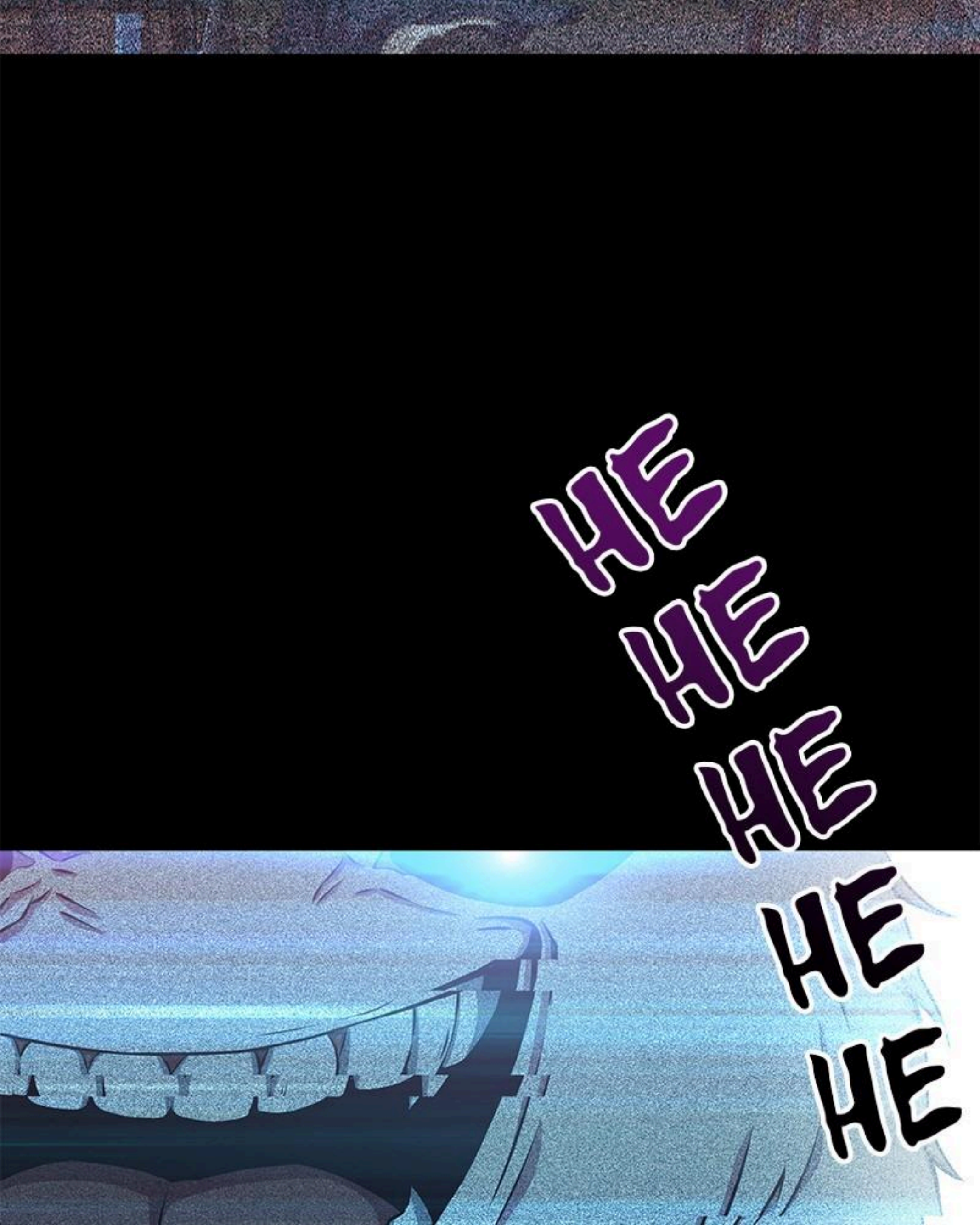
THE SURVIVOR OF CHANNEL #BAY23515 IS...

CRACKLE

JIHYE LEE...

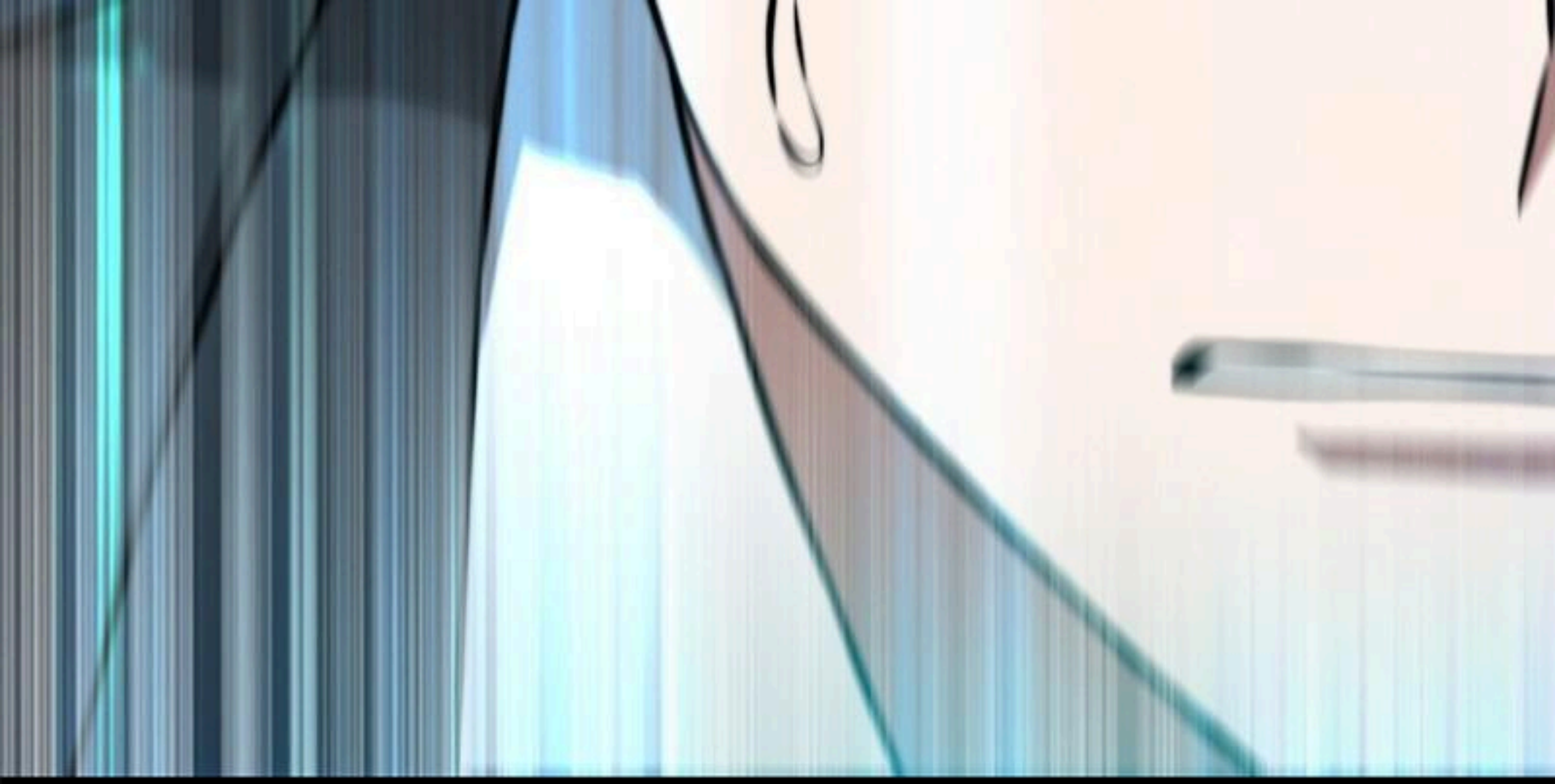
...A SECOND YEAR STUDENT FROM CLASS B AT TAEPUNG GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL.

TAEPUNG GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL
SECOND YEAR, CLASS B
SURVIVOR: JIHYE LEE


HE
HE
HE
HE
HE

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

FUN, RIGHT?



STAGGER

SNEAK

SNEAK

F**K!
WHAT IS THIS?!
WHAT THE HELL
IS GOING ON?!

IS GOING ON!?

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